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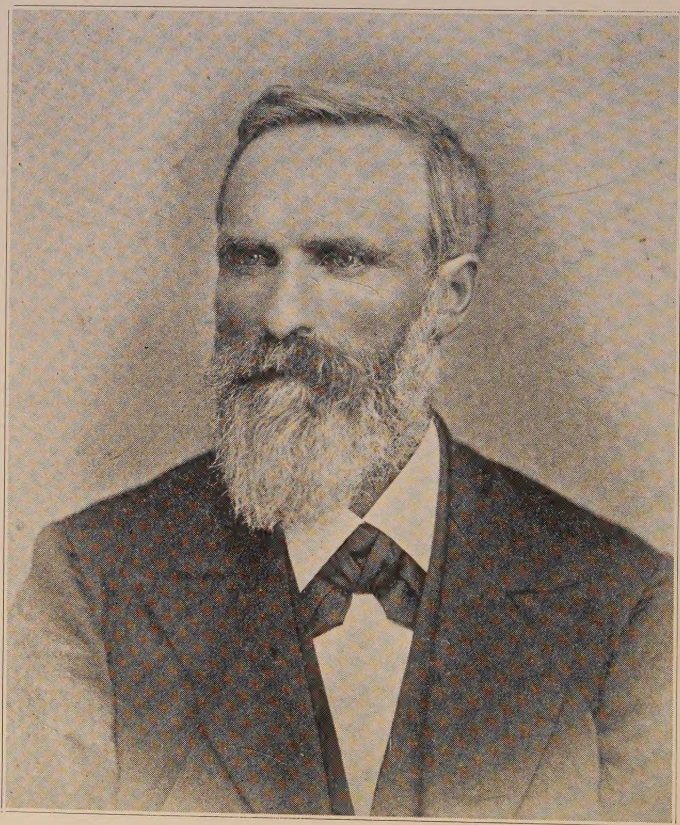
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ORLANDO C. HOWE

County judge of Dickinson County, 1857-62; district attorney Fourth Judicial District, 1859-63; captain Co. L, Ninth Ia. Vol. Cav., 1863-64; county judge Jasper County, 1865-66; resident professor of law, State University of Iowa, 1875-80.

# ANNALS OF IOWA

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VOL. XIX, No. 3      DES MOINES, IOWA, JANUARY, 1934      THIRD SERIES

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JUDGE ORLANDO C. HOWE  
SOMEWHAT OF HIS LIFE AND LETTERS

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BY F. I. HERRIOTT  
*Professor in Drake University*

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“For it is man’s nature which makes him trustworthy, not wealth.”—Aristotle.

“... the pioneers of northwestern Iowa will always have in their hearts a warm place for the memory of Orlando C. Howe.”

—Iowa State Bar Association.<sup>1</sup>

Orlando Cutter Howe was among the notable pioneers of northwestern Iowa, and one of the first settlers of Spirit Lake, in Dickinson County. He was attracted to the region by the reported beauty of the environs of Mde-Mini-Wakan.<sup>2</sup> He remained there for only six years, 1857–1863; but in those few years his character and capacity, his courage and consideration for others won and held public confidence, and left many vivid memories in the minds of the pioneers of our state’s frontier of a fine man and citizen, of an earnest, upright public official, and of a neighbor who would instantly put forth his utmost in behalf of family, friends and fellows in a common cause or crisis.

In the course of sundry searches for data relative to the origins and events of the Spirit Lake Massacre between March 8 and 15, 1857, when the entire settlement was destroyed, I received from the daughters of Judge Howe, Mrs. W. H.

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<sup>1</sup>*Proceedings Iowa State Bar Association*, Sixth Annual Meeting, held at Iowa City, July 17, 18, 1900. Report of the Committee on Legal Biography, p. 92.

<sup>2</sup>The Sioux designation, “Lake of the Spirit Water.” See F. I. Herriott, “Origins of the Indian Massacre between the Okobojis, March 8, 1857,” *ANNALS OF IOWA* (Third Series), Vol. XVIII, pp. 342–346.



(Helen Howe) Cooke, and Mrs. E. F. (Evelyn Howe) Porter, resident in Lynn Haven, Florida, a considerable number of letters of Judge Howe's written for the most part to Mrs. Howe between 1849 and 1865. With them were not a few others addressed to him by various correspondents, together with sundry documents, legal instruments relative to matters at Spirit Lake, and the original drafts of addresses, articles, or lectures. I was generously given permission to use them at discretion and to make such disposal of them as seemed appropriate. Their contents in the main were such that it seemed to me that they should be deposited with the Historical Department of Iowa where they now are. Many of them afford interesting glimpses of pioneer conditions and procedure. They also afford valuable data about events just preceding and following the Massacre of the settlers between the Okobojis—the most dramatic event in the entire history of Iowa's relations to the Red Men.<sup>3</sup> His letters to Mrs. Howe written from Arkansas, while in service in the Union Army in 1864, give us first hand information about men and measures in that section of the war zone in the Civil War.

In consequence of the decision to publish some of the letters among Judge Howe's papers, the editor of the ANNALS asked me to prepare the biographical sketch which follows. It is but little more than a summary of the major facts in his life which closed Thursday, August 24, 1899, at Topeka, Kansas, at the age of seventy-four years, eight months and five days.

## PART I—BIOGRAPHY

### I

Orlando C. Howe was among the thousands of New Englanders who came into Iowa, and particularly into northern Iowa, in the middle years of the '50s of the nineteenth century, and took such a noteworthy part in the formation of the state's political and social institutions. He was born in Winoona, Vermont, on December 19, 1824, the son of John C. Howe and Sarah Cutter Howe. About 1834 his

<sup>3</sup>W. H. C. Ott, "The Aftermath of the Spirit Lake Massacre of March 1864," pp. 610-613.

parents moved to and settled in Alden in Erie County, New York.<sup>4</sup>

His schooling begun in Williamstown was continued in the common school of Alden and then in the Academy of Aurora, which sustained an enviable reputation. His ambition focussed on the legal profession and he was fortunate in securing the privilege of studying in the law offices of Shumway & Williams, a well-known firm in Buffalo. Mr. Horatio Shumway had been a member of the General Assembly of New York at Albany, and Mr. Charles H. S. Williams was district attorney of Erie County.<sup>5</sup> After his admission to the bar he remained with the firm in the capacity of assistant prosecuting attorney, until he decided to come west in 1855. The training he got under his patrons in Buffalo gave him a good grounding in the principles and the practice of the common law, then but little modified by legislation, that made him fit and ready for the rapid professional and official promotion which came to him soon after he arrived in Iowa.

Meantime, in 1849, the young man had met, loved, wooed and won and married Maria Wheelock of Lancaster, New York, a young lady of marked ability and staunch character. At the time of their courtship Miss Wheelock was a teacher in the public schools of Buffalo. Characterizing two of the first women resident in Spirit Lake after the Massacre, Mr. R. A. Smith, a contemporary and later the historian of Dickinson County, thus records his recollections and his judgment:

Mrs. Howe was the more scholarly . . . having been a teacher in Buffalo. In addition to her literary attainments she possessed a rare fund of general information, and what is still more rare, a remarkable versatility of character, which enabled her to adapt herself to surroundings without fuss or friction. She was equally at home with the sturdy pioneers by whom she was surrounded as she would have been in the environments of polite society.<sup>6</sup>

For the following fifty years Mrs. Howe realized for her

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<sup>4</sup>Unless otherwise stated the narrative is based on the following general sources: (a) Mr. and Mrs. Howe's letters deposited in the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa; (b) the biographical sketch prepared for the Iowa State Bar Association by Judge George W. Wakefield of Sioux City, chairman of its Committee on Legal Biography, the data for which was gathered by Mr. R. A. Smith of Spirit Lake, Ia.—*Proc. Ia. St. Bar Assoc. for 1900*, pp. 89-92; and (c) R. A. Smith's *History of Dickinson County, Ia.*, 1902.

<sup>5</sup>Perry Smith (Ed) *History of Buffalo and Erie County*, Vol. II, p. 461; Vol. I, p. 348.

<sup>6</sup>Smith, *Op. Cit.*, p. 415.



husband, children, and neighbors the ideals of Ruth, daughter of Naomi: whither he went she went also; where he found lodgment she abided; and his people became hers—through fire and flood, sunshine and storm, sacrifice and war, Maria Wheelock proved ever helpmate and inspiration through the stress of the waxing years. In the letters which follow her devotion and worth were clearly appreciated.

The ordinary slowness of advancement and return for a young lawyer in an old community probably caused the young husband to think favorably of Horace Greeley's advice to "go west." Whatever the general cause, the immediate consideration was the glowing reports about the beauty of "the Iowa country," and the illimitable opportunities for large and rapid returns on small capital investments soon coerced him. The exact date of his departure is not certain, but it was some time in the late fall of 1855, for his first letter speaks of snow at Galena and near Dubuque. His decision must have been rather sudden or he would have started earlier in the year in order to make his journey at a more agreeable and favorable time for making his preliminary surveys to discover the relative merits of this and that region for permanent tenure.

In his first letter to Mrs. Howe, written at Dubuque, he gives a vivid picture of the push and rush of that westward movement into Iowa in pioneer days. He was as optimistic as the ancient hunters seeking the golden fleece. He apparently inclined to go into Minnesota at the outset, but for some reason, not disclosed, turned southward. With his mind's eye he saw quick returns in investments in virgin farm lands, and town sites and city lots were equal to gold mines, if he could secure the capital to obtain them. Fort Dodge and Sioux City came within consideration no less than Mankato, Minnesota, and Iowa Falls. He suggests much of the picture in three sentences: "Every [thing] whirls fast in this country. It most makes me dizzy—railroads and railroad schemes are so thick that no one can keep track of them."<sup>7</sup>

Iowa Falls in north Hardin County seems to have attracted him especially, and it is not quite clear why he decided to remain in Newton, in Jasper County, about sixty miles almost

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<sup>7</sup>O. C. Howe to Mrs. Howe, written at Dubuque without date, *post*.



straight south of the region he preferred. It is not certain when he first arrived in Newton, but probably in the forepart or middle of December, 1855.

Mr. Howe was not one to loiter in idleness, doless, waiting for something to happen to his liking. If law clients did not appear, he looked about for work as a teacher. Soon he was giving lectures to the "Newton Literary Society." The nature of the subjects dealt with, whether law or literature or philosophy, does not appear in his letters.<sup>8</sup>

It was significant of later developments in his career, and a perfect illustration of the easy-going and rapid way of things in the democracy on the frontier when he was offered January 10, 1856, a nomination for the county judgeship of Jasper County by a group of Know-Nothings who had asked him for the loan of his room at his boarding place to hold their caucus. He evidently had made a decidedly favorable impression in the conduct of a lawsuit, notwithstanding the decision was adverse to his client. Further, his participation was hardly technically permissible because he was not admitted to practice in Iowa until April 28, 1856.<sup>9</sup>

Within the year a serious movement was started and promoted by his friend, George E. Spencer, to secure his election as judge of the Eleventh Judicial District comprising Poweshiek, Mahaska, Jasper, Marion, Polk, Warren, Dallas and Madison counties.<sup>10</sup> Somewhat of his strength may easily be inferred from the letter of M. M. Crocker, a rising young Democratic attorney of Des Moines, who, although a Proslavery Democrat, was formally working for the nomination of James Williamson of Des Moines, but who saw that the latter probably could not win it and he, Crocker, saw that Howe held the key to the situation, and he preferred Howe to the other candidate foremost in the field. To what extent Mr. Howe personally encouraged his friend Spencer's plans, cannot be stated; but his journey to the Okobojis in February and the consequences to him personally of the Massacre in March nullified Spencer and Crocker's program. William M. Stone

<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, written at Newton, Jan. 22, 1856.

<sup>9</sup>Certificate of clerk of court of Jasper County, in O. C. Howe papers.

<sup>10</sup>Laws of Iowa, Sixth General Assembly, Chap. 2.

of Knoxville was nominated and elected judge of the Eleventh District.<sup>11</sup>

Mrs. Howe and their daughter "Linnie" came to Newton in April, 1856, and soon two of Mr. Howe's brothers-in-law, Messrs. B. F. Parmenter and Robert U. Wheelock—the latter two also on the lookout for good investments. In the early fall months they heard of the beauty of the lake country in northwestern Iowa, and decided to go up to survey the region. They went via Fort Des Moines, thence up the Des Moines River to Boonsboro, Fort Dodge, Dakota City, arriving at the Okobojis on the edge of the winter (November). They stopped with Joel Howe.<sup>12</sup> Their first view of the lakes decided them to make it their home. They returned to Newton to gather their possessions and return.

It was while on that first trip that Mr. Howe in one of his scouting trips to the west and north of Spirit Lake came upon Inkpaduta and his band of outlaw Sioux at Black Loon Lake, Jackson County, Minnesota, whence he and his band soon departed, going down the valley of the Little Sioux to Smithland where occurred the clash between the settlers and Inkpaduta's band when the firearms of the latter were taken from them in the midst of their hunting, with fatal consequences four months later.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup>George E. Spencer to O. C. Howe, Iowa City, Iowa, Dec. 26, 1856; M. M. Crocker to O. C. Howe, Fort Des Moines, Jan. 11, 1857.

George E. Spencer, a native of New York, was just twenty years of age when he came to Iowa in 1856, and he was an interesting character. He was able, energetic, and enthusiastic, not to say aggressive in crowding forward with his plans, promoting them with incessant and irrepressible optimism. He was a typical western land boomer. Mr. Smith gives a perfect illustration of some of his daring and ingenuity in "constructive imagination" in connection with the founding of the town of Spencer, county seat of Clay County, its growth exceeding in speed "the dreams of avarice." *Op. Cit.*, pp. 150-151. Later he had a notable career in the Union Army, rising from a captain to brigadier general for gallantry in the field. From 1868 to 1879 he was United States senator from Alabama.—*Biographical Congressional Directory*.

Since writing the paragraph in the text I have received additional letters from Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Cooke, among them letters from George E. Spencer which disclose that Mr. Howe was informed of Mr. Spencer's active canvassing in his (O. C. H.'s) behalf.

M. M. Crocker was a brilliant lawyer of Fort Des Moines, one of the foremost advocates in the state at the outbreak of the Civil War. He had been a West Point cadet, but could not complete his military training because of the death of his father, Col. James G. Crocker, and his mother's urgent needs. He was among the first to join the Union Army—the 2nd Iowa Infantry—and rose rapidly to a brigadier generalship. The fine work of the Crocker Iowa Brigade won applause from Generals Sherman and Grant. Pulmonary tuberculosis brought his brilliant career to an untimely close Aug. 26, 1865.—Byers' *Iowa in War Times*, pp. 434-38.

<sup>12</sup>O. C. Howe to Mrs. O. C. H., Ft. Dodge, Mar. 22, 1857. The Joel Howe named was no relative of O. C. H.

<sup>13</sup>Smith, *Op. Cit.*, pp. 49-50.

## II

Orlando C. Howe and his partners, his two brothers-in-law, were either very alert and energetic men in business matters, or they were anxious to get back to the lakes to secure the advantageous tracts sought before other incoming settlers could preempt them, for they left Newton with wagons loaded with equipment and provisions on February 20, arriving in Fort Des Moines on the 24th. At Boonsboro he wrote Mrs. Howe that reports from the lake region said that "no Sioux" were about "so do not let Indians trouble you at all."<sup>14</sup>

They arrived at Castner's place in southeast Palo Alto County on March 5, utterly worn with the struggle against winds and snow, their oxen limping. The next day a severe storm prevented departure and held them for several days. Finally on the afternoon of Monday, March 16, they came into the Lake Region. Their oxen got stuck in the snowdrift three miles from their destination. They noticed no signs of life in or about the five cabins, no smoke arising from chimneys, no stock animals in sight. They began to fear that some untoward event had happened. They had been warned by Major William Williams at Fort Dodge not to go forward, for serious rumors of Sioux on the warpath had come to him. But with the usual American assurance they thought the Fates would protect them.

Leaving their oxen, they loaded a hand sled with bedding and provisions and made their way to Joel Howe's cabin where they had stayed in November preceding. They had not made much progress before they felt certain that matters were not right and when they reached the cabin no one of the family appeared, and all was chaos, household utensils, clothing and bedding being scattered in utter confusion.

Leaving Messrs. Parmenter and Snyder, Mr. Howe and Robert Wheelock started for the Thatcher cabin about a mile away on the north. There they found matters worse and discovered moccasin tracks. They needed no more evidence to convince them that the settlement had been wiped out by the Indians. Despite their weariness they decided the next morn-

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<sup>14</sup>O. C. Howe to Mrs. O. C. H., Boonsboro, Feb. 27, 1857.



ing to return to Fort Dodge at once to report the catastrophe and confer with its citizens as to plans for relief and rescue of any who might have escaped the ruthless foes.<sup>15</sup>

Their experiences during the next four weeks—their report to Major Williams and the people of Fort Dodge, the organization of the Relief Expedition, and the frightful sufferings endured by the three companies going and returning, in which Mr. Howe and his partners suffered intolerably with their companions in the expedition, I have set forth in considerable detail in preceding pages.<sup>16</sup>

In the awful perplexities and decisions Major Williams and his men had to make, one of the members who lived to be one of its historians, Mr. Rodney A. Smith, informs us:

Mr. Howe was a member of Company A, and it was on him more than any other that Major Williams relied for information and advice; . . . After the work of burying the dead had been completed . . . he was persistently in favor of returning by the same route they came up, which was by the way of Emmet and Estherville. Had his advice been heeded much suffering would have been avoided and two valuable lives saved. He with six others, remained in camp during that terrific storm which has since become historic, and then succeeded in reaching Fort Dodge without suffering any particular inconvenience.<sup>17</sup>

Mr. Howe endured sufferings, frozen feet and exhaustion from exposure, during those four weeks of intermittent rain and snow and incessant winds and blizzards, from which he never fully recovered. The memories of the hideous wreckage and mutilated bodies of women and children he saw in the cabins on the shores of the Okobojis, ever after haunted his dreams. His daughters inform me that he never wanted the subject mentioned in his presence in the family circle; and it was with difficulty that he was persuaded to prepare the memoir of his experiences with the Massacre for a reunion at Spirit Lake in 1895 of some of the survivors of the Relief Expedition which was published some fifteen years after his death.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>15</sup>O. C. Howe to Mrs. O. C. H., Fort Dodge, March 22, 1857.

<sup>16</sup>F. I. Herriott, "The Aftermath of the Spirit Lake Massacre," *ANNALS OF IOWA* (Third Series), Vol. XVIII, pp. 438-70.

<sup>17</sup>*Proc. Ia. St. Bar Assoc., Op. Cit.*, pp. 90-91; Smith, *Op. Cit.*, pp. 90-91. Capt. J. C. Johnson of Webster City and Wm. E. Buckholder of Fort Dodge were the two men who lost their lives, referred to by Mr. Smith.

<sup>18</sup>Mrs. E. F. (Evelyn H.) Porter, and Mrs. W. H. (Helen) H. Cooke to F. I. Herriott, Nov. 14, 1932, and Dec. 12, 1933, (MSS.).

## III

Mr. Howe always displayed marked determination and persistence in pushing forward in any ordinary undertaking in which he was interested. Notwithstanding the horrors of the devastating catastrophe between the Okobojis that came near to being fatal in his own case, Mr. Howe was not deterred from going ahead with his plans. He returned to Newton but he and his business associates were back at the Lakes in the latter part of May, and by June they had selected a town site which they called Spirit Lake and began the necessary preliminary towards the organization of Dickinson County.<sup>19</sup> Mrs. Howe with their three-year-old daughter came on August 6, the first women to arrive after the Massacre.<sup>20</sup>

At the election on the first Tuesday in August Mr. Howe was elected county judge for a term of four years: and it was a decided tribute to his reputation, and his ability and character. Under the Code of 1851 the county judge exercised all of the legislative and administrative powers of the old county commissioners, and since the late '60s, now performed by the Board of Supervisors. In the popular parlance of the hustings they were dubbed "The County Kings."<sup>21</sup>

But his official honors were not confined to his local bailiwick. Under the act of the Seventh General Assembly (Chapter 94) the Fourth Judicial District was created, comprising twenty-two counties in northwest Iowa, approximately a fourth of the state in area.<sup>22</sup> The election of the judge and district attorney occurred on the second Tuesday in October, 1858, and Asahel W. Hubbard of Sioux City was elected judge and Orlando C. Howe of Spirit Lake, district attorney, each

<sup>19</sup>The original proprietors of Spirit Lake were O. C. Howe, B. F. Parmenter, R. U. Wheelock, and George E. Spencer. Their plans were interesting. They selected a site that they thought could also serve as the "county seat" town. Then they platted the town site which was "to be held in common" for the general use of the community. Thereafter they were individually to select their claims on the adjacent or nearby tracts.—Smith, *Op. Cit.*, p. 158.

<sup>20</sup>Smith, *Op. cit.*, p. 178.

<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*, pp. 169–70.

<sup>22</sup>The range of Judge Howe's circuit or district may best be realized by the mere listing of the counties comprehended within the Fourth Judicial District, beginning with the southernmost counties and proceeding northward and eastward:

Harrison and Shelby, Monona and Crawford, Woodbury and Ida, Sac and Buena Vista, Cherokee and Plymouth, Clay and O'Brien. Sioux and Buncombe (now Lyon), Osceola and Dickinson, Emmet and Palo Alto, Pocahontas and Calhoun, Kossuth and Humboldt.

for a term of four years. Under the terms of Section 32, Chapter 101, of the Acts of the Seventh General Assembly a county judge was allowed to act as attorney for his county in legal matters—and thus there was no inconsistency in his holding the two offices simultaneously—the duties of county judge at the outset did not call for much more than ministerial and administrative functions. Somewhat of the nature and range of his duties while on circuit is suggested in the following lines taken from Judge Wakefield's sketch for the State Bar Association:

At that time the district embraced nearly one fourth of the area of the entire state. His family remained at the Lakes while he travelled the circuit. There were no railroads in this part of the state at that time, and trips across the desolate prairie were not picnics. As prosecuting attorney he was both successful and popular.<sup>23</sup>

References to local events or persons in the weekly press of northwestern Iowa, between 1858 and 1863, were both meagre and infrequent. Mr. F. M. Zieback, editor of *The Sioux City Register* of August 11, 1859, refers in favorable terms to District Attorney Howe, and he was not given to favorable comment upon Republican office-holders. During the summer months of 1859 the people of Woodbury County were in a violent controversy over an alleged bogus issue of county warrants. The county records and seals had been seized and taken into the country to parts unknown. Purchasers of the warrants were asking that they be honored and demanding a writ of mandamus. Judge Test of Indiana argued the petition and Mr. John A. Kasson of Des Moines resisted for the county. The writ was denied, as was also an injunction. Proceedings in quo warranto were pending and the contestants "next endeavored to dismiss the quo warranto from court . . . The relator, John L. Campbell, was allowed to withdraw . . . but our worthy District Attorney felt that the public interests were deeply involved in the determination of the cause and wisely insisted upon the right of the state to continue the prosecution—which was conceded by the court \* \* \* \* \*". The conclusion was a victory for the county and Mr. Zieback adds "clearly proves that *the people have some rights.*"

So far as the volumes of the decisions of Iowa's Supreme

<sup>23</sup>*Proc. Ia. St. Bar Assoc., Op. Cit., p. 91.*



Court disclose no cases with which Judge Howe was officially connected either as district attorney, or any of his acts as county judge were appealed. This may mean either or both of two things: first, that litigation, especially criminal prosecutions, was not numerous or serious; and second, that he succeeded in securing decrees or rulings or verdicts that were conclusive.

He was, as I have already shown in some detail, with his business partners and others almost incessantly involved in harrassing litigation with Dr. John S. Prescott and his partisans over land and other transactions that kept the otherwise law-abiding community at Spirit Lake in an uproar, at one time producing an incipient civil war wherein "the army of occupation" aided one side in resisting a court injunction which the sheriff was attempting to enforce. But in that bitter controversy, he appears to have been throughout and in the conclusion in the right.<sup>24</sup>

#### IV

The course of things for Judge Howe was again rudely disturbed by the horrible outbreak of the Sioux between the Yellow Medicine and the Blue Earth rivers in August, 1862, the attack being conceived and carried forward by Little Crow and Inkpadata, each an outlaw chief of the Wahpakute band, a catastrophe exceeding in its devastation of life any previous or subsequent event in the long struggle of the Red Men with the whites, and due largely, to the failure of the national government to capture and punish Inkpadata for his attack upon the Spirit Lake settlement in March, 1857.<sup>25</sup>

In the earlier part of 1861 Mrs. Howe records that she was with her husband on circuit at Onawa, when the word came of the attack on Fort Sumpter. Judge Hubbard adjourned court and they started on their journey to Spirit Lake. They encountered a number of young southern army officers who had resigned their commissions and were returning south to join the Confederate Army. They told the Howes that they, the settlers, would soon have enough to occupy their attention,

<sup>24</sup>F. I. Herriott, "The Aftermath of the Spirit Lake Massacre," *ANNALS OF IOWA* (Third Series), Vol. XVIII, pp. 615-17.

<sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, pp. 601-04.

namely, the threatening conduct of the Sioux, signs of their malevolent purposes were increasing all round the horizon, and that the settlers would have little time to deal with the secessionists. Mrs. Howe records that a squad of soldiers stationed at the Lakes while on a march were fired on by the Indians a few days before they reached the Lakes. Those soldiers appeared to have been national troops. The intermittent forays of the Sioux on marauding expeditions kept the pioneers in a constant state of dread, although outwardly they assumed that there was no serious danger.<sup>26</sup>

Suddenly one day in August, probably between the 20th and the 25th of August, 1862, Judge Howe rushed into his home and shouted: "They are at it again!" and told Mrs. Howe that Springfield in Jackson County, Minnesota, had been destroyed by the Sioux, and that he was going with his neighbors to ascertain what the actual facts were and what measures were necessary for defense. Despite frantic appeals to stay at home to avoid danger, Judge Howe again showed the stern stuff of which his character was compounded by resisting the plea of one he held dearest and hurrying forth into the dark shadows of unpredictable dangers, realizing that the best defense is a daring offensive, if but one knows the terrain and the dangers therein.<sup>27</sup>

The belligerent Sioux, although they spread terror far and wide, and their attacks upon the settlements in southwestern Minnesota came near, they did not reach Spirit Lake. But its residents suffered all of the agonies and terrors of anticipation. Moreover, as Mrs. Howe's brief memoir reveals with terrible particulars, the men saw some of the hideous work of the Sioux, and Mrs. Howe came into painful but helpful relations with one of the poor victims.<sup>28</sup>

The general terror produced by the Sioux outbreak in 1862 was so disturbing that it constrained Judge Howe to decide to leave Spirit Lake region, the peace of mind of his wife

<sup>26</sup>Mrs. M. W. Howe, "A Memory of the Minnesota Indian Massacre," *post*.

Captain Wm. H. Ingham probably refers to those soldiers mentioned by Mrs. Howe in his report to Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood in September, 1862, concerning conditions on the northwestern frontier after the Sioux outbreak, and his measures for defense, contained in his "The Iowa Northern Border Brigade of 1862-3," ANNALS OF IOWA (Third Series), Vol. V., p. 492.

<sup>27</sup>Mrs. Howe, *Op. Cit.*

<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*

and relatives probably being the controlling consideration with him. He sold his holdings and returned to Newton, Jasper County, in the spring of 1863.<sup>29</sup>

He at once entered into active legal practice. It was not long before he was again an influential factor in local politics. He is reported to have attended the Republican State Convention in Des Moines on July 17, 1863, convened to select their candidate for governor. He had an important part in securing the dramatic nomination of his old successful rival, Judge William M. Stone, for governor by a sudden *coup* that astounded Messrs. Fitz Henry Warren and Elijah Sells, the two major candidates, by its unexpectedness and sweeping success.<sup>30</sup>

## V

But neither the legal practice nor politics held first place in Judge Howe's heart and mind that summer and fall. The awful struggle the nation was waging with the seceding Southern States and the call for more men in the ranks of the Union Army controlled; and he finally decided that he should not resist President Lincoln's call for more men. On June 4 Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood commissioned Judge Howe a second lieutenant in the Eighth Iowa Cavalry and on the 5th of June he was mustered in at Davenport. He was with that regiment until November 30 when he was transferred to the Ninth Iowa Cavalry as captain of Company L, Gov. Kirkwood issuing the commission.

The regiment rendezvoused at Camp Roberts near Davenport; thence it was ordered to the famous Camp Jackson near St. Louis; and thence to Jefferson Barracks where the regiment underwent a course of training that brought it to a state of discipline that won from General Davidson, chief of the cavalry in the department, the commendation that the Ninth Iowa Cavalry was "the best mounted regiment he had

<sup>29</sup>Smith, *Op. Cit.*, p. 259.

<sup>30</sup>*Proc. Ia. St. Bar Assoc., Op. Cit.*, p. 91. Judge Wakefield's sketch states that Judge Howe was a member of that "historic convention." If so he must have been an alternate, for his name is not listed among the reported delegates given in the *Iowa State Register* July 18, 1863. His brother-in-law, B. F. Parmenter, was a delegate from Dickinson County. Mr. R. A. Smith gave Judge Wakefield his data for his sketch and he could speak definitely from personal knowledge gained from acquaintance with Messrs. Howe and Parmenter.

Letter of R. A. Smith to Mrs. O. C. Howe in Judge Howe's correspondence.



seen during his nineteen years of service as a cavalry officer in the Regular Army.<sup>31</sup>

In the forepart of 1864 the Ninth was engaged chiefly in scouting and guard duty, among other diversions, chasing the notorious Quantrell. In May it was ordered to proceed to Devall's Bluff on the White River, about midway between Helena on the Mississippi and Little Rock on the Arkansas River. Captain Howe's letters home will be best appreciated if read in the light of the following taken from a summary of Major S. H. M. Byers' *Iowa In War Times*:

The Ninth Cavalry entered the service very late and was stationed in Arkansas, where it remained till the close of the war without seeing a battle. This regiment, nearly 1200 strong, was in fact one of the finest commands in the Union forces. \* \* \* During the whole service . . . its headquarters were at Devall's Bluff. \* \* \* From this base in all sorts of weather, over the worst roads on the continent, and often miles and miles of almost bottomless swamps, the Ninth Cavalry was forever making scouts and little raids. To every point of the compass from Little Rock, by day or by night, the command would be hurried off on some fruitless expedition, some chase after bands that had just departed, or to protect some point that had just been abandoned. \* \* \*

It was a pity that this great, fine regiment of veteran soldiers and competent officers should have to spend its energies in ways that produced so little of results. \* \* \* These movements were so monotonous . . . as not to be sufficiently interesting in their history to repeat. The command did the duty that lay before it, and did it well; more than this can be said of no regiment.<sup>32</sup>

At the outset the Ninth Cavalry seems to have given the public an adverse impression of demoralization. Captain Howe notes it candidly, and all through his letters one is struck by his generous appraisal of officers and men and of other regiments when he refers to them. Thus, writing from Benton Barracks (Feb. 15):

. . . we are far from being a "pet" regiment. On the contrary we are generally reported as "demoralized," but this is entirely false as I do not believe any Cavalry Regiment as new as this is in better discipline, or better instructed.

I think the trouble is that some of the officers grumbled at what they thought some swindling operations respecting our fuel & that you know

<sup>31</sup>Col. George W. Crossley, "Historical Sketch Ninth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Cavalry," *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers*, Vol. IV, p. 1644.

<sup>32</sup>Byers', *Op. Cit.*, pp. 295-96.

will never do. Our colonel [M. M. Trumbull] is a trump (if you know what that is) (and a right bower too). There is not a man but what likes him and though he will enforce discipline, he is kind to the men.

and again on April 14:

By the way, I get along decently with the men and; though lenient as the other officers say to a fault, yet we have a fair discipline & I control the company easily, while some have considerable difficulty. R. can do nothing with them except through fear & but little anyway & Moore can only coax & succeeds fairly for that way.

Writing from Devall's Bluff under date of June 26 he gives us a brief summary of his company's doings in pursuit of Shelby after a wearisome march without results:

The men feel disappointed about the matter as they bore the march in the hopes of a fight & . . . for one I am willing to wait my time & meanwhile do such duty as I am called on for. My company has had a very hard time, having been scouting twelve days, but Company E has been out ten days longer. I *never* fail to go when L. goes, & though we have had no chance to get much glory, yet the bushwhackers have learned that the "Grey Horse Company" as they call us are not to be trifled with. On this last scout my men were recognized by that title.<sup>33</sup>

Captain Howe might have quoted very appropriately those telling lines of Milton

They also serve who only stand and wait.

His letters to Mrs. Howe from the southern camps, like those written from Newton, Fort Dodge, and the Okobojs in 1856-1857, were unadorned rhetoric, direct, simple, full of affection, but without gush or sentimentality. He gave her glimpses of the men in camp, and of the country into which their marches took them, and infrequent comment upon brother officers—seldom adverse in character. There is no egotistical assertion, or ostentatious display of personal virtues. There is no petty complaining about the dull routine to which, day after day, his men and regiment were subject. One sentence in his letter of August 31, 1863, displays effectively his quiet modesty of disposition, his honesty and sense of public obligation, always disclosed in his private and public relations. He was anxious to return home, and hoping for the days to pass rapidly so that he could decently ask for a furlough.

<sup>33</sup>Judge Howe's letters to Mrs. Howe from which the foregoing extracts have been taken are given in subsequent sections.

Matters affecting Mrs. Howe's convenience and welfare were urgent and distressed him. He was ill, more or less, to an extent that would have lead many another to make it a justification for seeking such release from camp duties. But, he says half regretfully, "My health is improving. It is doubtful whether I am entitled to a furlough."

The letters of the men of his company to their home folks in Newton and Prairie City or thereabouts evidently carried back from the camp some favorable opinions of Capt. Howe's treatment of his company. Some of them evidently came to the ears of the anxious wife at home and she joyfully relayed them in substance to her husband enduring the monotony of camp life, the routine of drill and guard duty and fruitless scouting forays. (July 23, 1863.)

In one letter, October 5, 1863, we may note clear signs of his depleted nervous system and low level of strength. He had heard that Mrs. Howe, disturbed by reports of his serious illness, had hastily started south to find his camp, and if she could not take him back to Newton, then to care for him in hospital or where found. He was frantic with anxiety at the dread possibilities if she had imprudently started. The low condition of the family finances, the dangers of such a long trip under the conditions to her personally, and the almost certain official antagonism to her coming into camp, or hospital, were among the causes of his unhappy feelings. Happily he had been misinformed.

At the outset his health was fairly good but in the hot summer months the lack of wholesome water and the miasma of the swamps and low regions through which they marched and anon camped, brought him low. It is a marvel the entire troop was not laid low. For four to five months he was suffering intermittently from fever and dysentery which finally confined him to the hospital. His condition not improving he was discharged December 6, 1864. From the contents of Mrs. Howe's last letter to him of December 5, 1864, he was sent up the Mississippi and placed in the army hospital at Davenport, in very serious condition.

How long he remained in Davenport, or the precise date of Captain Howe's return to Newton cannot be stated; but in



a letter written years later Mrs. Howe states that he was in a very feeble condition physically and mentally. Few of his old comrades and neighbors expected him to live. The daughters, sixty-nine years after, recalled gratefully the generous, unremitting consideration and help extended their mother in her weeks of anxious care while waiting for his return to health by old friends and neighbors in Newton. To their neighborly concern and aid was due in no small part his final recovery of a fair degree of health, although he never was a strong man again.<sup>34</sup>

The esteem in which their captain was held, and the affection of the members of Company L for him, which continued green and constant throughout the intervening years were signalized definitely twenty-eight years after he left the ranks on the occasion of the reunion of his old regiment in Des Moines on August 26, 1892. Captain Howe on account of his health could not make the journey from Medicine Lodge, Kansas, where he was then residing, to Des Moines. About September 10 he received the following letter which he treasured among his correspondence and papers.

Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 8, 1892.

Capt. O. C. Howe,  
Madison [Medicine] Lodge,  
Kansas.

Dear Comrade:

It is with the greatest of pleasure that I have the honor to inform you that we, the boys of Co. L, 9th Iowa Cav., at the reunion at Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 26, 1892, presented you with a cane as a slight token of the regard and esteem with which you are ever held by us comrades.

Yours very resp.

Comrade J. G. Bain.

Des Moines, Iowa.

P. S. I forward the cane by express to your address—please call at the express office for it.

Your boy, James.

That letter and the token it accompanied are among "the testimonies" that as a Roman proverb has it, "are to be weighed, not counted." They are seldom given *pro forma*: they are the issue of good will and affection born of comrade-

<sup>34</sup>Mrs. E. H. Porter to F. I. Herriott, Nov. 14, 1932.

ship in danger and trial. By no means the least interesting bit of evidence of the fact here adverted to is the signature of the writer of the letter of notification to the postscript—"Your boy, James." James G. Bain was the bugler of the company: He was only fourteen years when he enlisted; and his admiration of and affection for his "Captain," continued, his widow informs me, warm and vigorous to the last. Such shafts come out of the blue. They abolish gloom and make one forget weary nerves and nagging worries.

## VI

Captain Howe was no sooner able to be out and go about than he returned to the practice of law. On October 10, 1865, he was elected county judge of Jasper County, his term ending January 1, 1868. By the new law creating the Board of Supervisors which displaced the county judge system inaugurated by the Code of 1851, the "County Kings" went out of office in 1866. From that date until the fall of 1875 Judge Howe continued in the practice of law at Newton.

During his practice of law at Newton after the cessation of his office of county judge in 1866 Judge Howe seems to have been an office lawyer, a counselor rather than a court room advocate. We may infer this from the fact that he was engaged in few of the cases appealed from the District Court of Jasper County between 1866 and 1875 when he went to Iowa City. In the three cases in which his name appears, he was successful in two, securing affirmation, and suffering reversal in the other.

In 1875 Judge Howe's ability and character as a lawyer and judge received signal recognition. The regents of the State University of Iowa asked him to be the resident professor of law in the Law School, which chair he held until the close of the spring term of 1880. Among his predecessors were William G. Hammond and William E. Miller. The law curriculum at that time required but one year of residence of the student as a prerequisite for graduation. Judge Howe's lectures dealt with Common Law Pleading and Practice, Code and Statutory Pleading, with Criminal Law, Municipal Law and Equity Jurisprudence. Besides Chancellor Hammond, among the lecturers were Judges Austin Adams, John F. Dillon and

James M. Love, and John F. Duncombe and Lewis W. Ross, who served during Judge Howe's stewardship.

Judge Howe did not have the prestige of Judges Dillon and Love because of their distinguished career on the state and federal benches, and he did not have the notable ability of Chancellor Hammond in literary and didactic exposition. But tradition and recollections indicate he was well versed in the basic maxims and principles of the law, and his varied experience as a public official—as county judge of Dickinson and Jasper counties, as district attorney of twenty-two counties for four years, and in the Union Army—gave him a fund of practical knowledge that always keeps an instructor's feet on the ground and holds his mind's eye within the circuit of common sense and the feasible.

Among Judge Howe's lectures (in MS.) to his law classes various titles are suggestive. They fall under two general heads:

1. On the Criminal Law, such as the "History of the Criminal Law"; "Sorcery and Witchcraft in Criminal Law"; "Corporal Punishment in the Schools"; and "The Lawyer's Responsibility in Criminal Cases." The latter given to the class of 1877 was reprinted at the request of the class;

2. On the lawyer's logical methods or procedure in arriving at his conclusions, such as the use of "Discrimination," "Imagination," "Perception and Observation."

They are clear-cut expositions, the argument and the narrative varied with literary and historical allusions.

Judge Howe was hampered constantly by the impairment of his health due to the harrowing experiences endured in his connection with the Spirit Lake Massacre and Relief Expedition of 1857 and his almost fatal illness in the Army. It left him with a nervous system always near the point of unstable equilibrium which could easily be disturbed. This latter fact was but little appreciated by students who sometimes witnessed his nervous tension in dealing with disturbing questions or with inquiries put for digressive purposes.

Some of the recollections of his stewardship are strikingly shown in the following letter from one of his students, former



Governor George W. Clarke of Adel, a member of the class of 1878:

Judge Howe was a man of very pleasing personality, mild-mannered, clear and earnest in the exposition of his subjects, interested in the students, patient in answering their questions, however irrelevant and even absurd they might now and then appear to be, careful never to in the slightest degree, expose the want of point to the question or failure to grasp the subject under consideration.

Judge Howe was competent, well-grounded in the subjects he taught, clear in his exposition of them. I am sure that every student of his classes has ever held him in most agreeable and happy memory as a man, lawyer, teacher and friend.<sup>35</sup>

Judge Howe concluded his professorship at the Law School of the University with the spring term of 1880. His decision was due apparently to two serious considerations: compensation for such instructional work was not extravagant, and his financial needs were not easily met with the then authorized appropriations, and the general practice of his profession offered more attractive inducements; and his general health, not good at any time, was adversely affected by the continuous close confinement to the routine work of the school.

## VII

In 1881 Judge Howe moved to Anthony, the county seat of Harper County on the southern border of Kansas and entered practice with James McFee. Two years later illness caused a cessation of work and he moved to Medicine Lodge, the county seat town of Barber County, adjacent on the west, where he resided for the next sixteen years. Almost immediately he was accorded another demonstration of the impression made by his abilities and character upon associates and the public. He was elected prosecuting attorney of Barber County for the years 1885-86.<sup>36</sup> Familiars with the precincts and runways of politics know that party leaders and the average voter are not thus giving honors for accidental or mere sentimental reasons; they discern and appreciate ability and capacity for public service and they expect returns.

In two letters to Mr. Charles Aldrich, founder of the Historical Department, who had written asking for his recollec-

<sup>35</sup>Hon. Geo. W. Clarke to F. I. Herriott, December 4, 1933.

<sup>36</sup>*Barber County Index*, August 30, 1899.

tions of his experiences in early Iowa, Mr. Howe informed him that he had not been able on account of illness to do any work between August, 1895, and January, 1896; and that it was usual for him to suffer a serious relapse of health in the summer months of that decade.<sup>37</sup> His illness in 1895 was induced by efforts to prepare the address later mentioned, which he could not deliver on account of precarious health.

In the months of August and September, 1899, Judge Howe's physical condition became precarious. His nervous instability became very alarming. It was in major part due to the weakness of his age, for he had passed his three score and ten by nearly five years. He was so ill that his physician and family persuaded him that he could best secure rest for his unruly nerves and much needed sleep in the quiet of a sanitarium.

A few days later, on August 17, he and his attendant were standing in front of the railroad station at Topeka awaiting the coming of their train when Judge Howe saw a number of plains Indians in all of their barbaric regalia coming towards him into the open area of the station. The sight of them produced a violent shock to his then hypersensitive mind and nerves.

Instantly there came rushing back before his mind's eye the horrors of the Indian Massacre on the shores of the Okobojis that he came upon in the darksome shadows of Monday night of March 16, 1857. The memories of the hideous wreckage, of the mutilated bodies of the children, and women and men stark and lifeless in the cabins, on the shores of Mde-Mini-Wakan had ever been a terror of his sleeping and waking hours; and their ruthless, sudden onset in the then enfeebled condition of his body and mind produced a mental catastrophe. His mental controls broke. Violent maniacal disorder took possession of him. Although he was rushed to the sanitarium and given the best of medical attention, within a week his life went out and his harrassed and tired nerves and weary mind ceased their troubling.<sup>38</sup> Verily, the sable sisters had dipped their shears in "the blackest ink of Fate," before they cut the threads of life for Orlando C. Howe.

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<sup>37</sup>O. C. Howe to Charles Aldrich, August 17, 1895; March 10, 1896, MSS in Historical Department.

<sup>38</sup>Mrs. E. H. Porter to F. I. Herriott, November 14, 1932.

## VIII

In conclusion it is neither pedantic nor ungracious to say that Judge Orlando C. Howe, during his day and generation, was not among those who strutted across the stage of life's theatre in high-heeled cothurnus. His was not the role of the great and mighty among jurists and statesmen, whose utterances echo and reverberate in the corridors of time; nor was he among the great and dominant leaders in life's vast battlefields. He did not leave any great signposts along the highways, such as great legal arguments, or famous judicial rulings, or erudite treatises in various fields of jurisprudence. Nevertheless, Judge Howe was of the type of citizens who make the bulwarks of a sound public order and on whom strong states stand secure against the winds of disorder.

Within that most important circuit of life, his domestic circle, Judge Howe was ever what the good citizen should be. Concern for wife and children was always foremost with him; he was considerate, constant and in all matters of grave import, faithful and foresighted. With business associates honesty and kindness stand forth. He accorded men the fair presumptions of the law and was far from captious or contentious; but when his rights were grossly infringed he would be forthright and valiant in contending for them.

In times when danger and terror loomed near he was a leader in attack and fearless and loyal to the last ounce of his strength. Although he had suffered irretrievably in connection with the Indian outbreaks in 1857 and 1862, and might have easily plead his age (almost 39 years) and depleted health, he answered his country's call in 1863 and all but lost his life.

His early letters indicate clearly that, while he hoped to succeed in the practice of the law, he was alert, and almost aggressive in his interest in business ventures and real estate investments. He might have reaped substantial returns, for his eye was keen and correct in discerning profitable fields for speculation. But his success in such ventures was sadly thwarted by catastrophes—Indian massacres and Civil War—which were in no way predictable by the ordinary citizen within the common reckonings of business. The disturbances



of his health level probably lessened his powers of steady persistence in application and concentration in carrying through plans and coercing the many various elements that must be focused in achieving success in the struggles in the commercial world.

In all of his letters, running over the ten years within which most of them were written, one can find no disagreeable or ugly lines. He is active and earnest and insistent, often, in pushing matters; but the forked tongue of envy or jealousy or suspicion nowhere displays itself. Further, all of his letters are characterized by a simple rhetoric, plain, direct statement, with no effort at striking effects or attempts to impress the reader with his literary gymnastics. Here and there one encounters a reference that indicates his familiarity with the classics, or with the current literature of polite circles; but there are no ostentatious exhibits.

Judge Howe, had he not been distracted by exacting business cares and ill health, might have succeeded in a literary career. He had an effective style, concise, lucid, straightforward. In his law and literary lectures he shows a familiarity with and draws on his wide reading in history and the classical and best English literature. His scholastic interests were early appreciated as indicated by the fact that he was elected a member of the State Historical Society at Iowa City on December 7, 1858. His certificate of membership is signed by Dr. M. B. Cochran, Corresponding Secretary, and are among the papers which he preserved.

His interest in life and history, and in the law was philosophical, as may be seen in his MS lectures on "Progress," on "The course of Civilization," on "Liberty," on "Puritans and Puritanism." His account of the "Discovery of the Spirit Lake Massacre" which he prepared to deliver at the dedication of the monument to the victims of the Spirit Lake Massacre and commemorating the heroism of the members of the Relief Expedition in July, 1895, is a stirring, vivid narrative, as may be seen in preceding pages of the ANNALS.<sup>39</sup>

Judge Howe was a man who easily won and held the confidence of his companions and fellow citizens, and to whom they readily committed grave trusts. Otherwise, it is diffi-

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<sup>39</sup>ANNALS OF IOWA (Third Series), Vol. XI, pp. 408-24.

cult to account for his frequent elevation to offices of high import almost instantly after his appearance within the community by associates and neighbors, in one case before he had attained the necessary legal status prerequisite to election; and each time the office to which he was elected was not a petty nor a minor office but one of major public concern and high in public esteem. We may concur with Aristotle that "it is man's nature which makes him trustworthy, not wealth."

[To be continued]

### TROOPS AT THE COUNCIL BLUFFS<sup>1</sup>

(Extract from a letter from Council Bluffs, June 24, 1820.)

I am glad the fact authorizes me to state that the troops at this post are restored to perfect health. There are not in both corps thirty men on the sick report, nor is there a single case of serious indisposition.

The diseases with which the men were afflicted last winter may be attributed to several causes. My opinion is that the most prominent ones were unavoidable fatigues and exposures in ascending the river during summer and autumn, heavy labor in constructing barracks, and being quartered in green, damp rooms, and the intense cold of last winter. No sooner did the spring open and the earliest vegetables come, than the bowed down patient shook off his loathsome visitor, stood erect and was able to speed his course with the rapidity of the noble stream that fertilizes this garden of the western world.

The great and universal rise of the Missouri has driven us from our winter position. Almost the whole of the bottom lands are inundated. The flood is greater than is recollected by the oldest Indian. The Platte is also in flood, and we tremble for Boon's Lick settlements and all the lower country. Our earliest planted gardens and a field of 60 acres of corn are deluged. Our prospects are not, however, much blighted as our late planted gardens, 200 acres of corn, 100 in beans, and 30 of potatoes exhibit the most promising appearance.—*Boston Weekly Magazine*, Boston, Mass., Aug. 24, 1820. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

<sup>1</sup>This is the original Council Bluffs, located on the west bank of the Missouri River some ten miles north of the present city of Omaha. It was later called Fort Calhoun.—Editor of Annals.

## THE KNOW NOTHING PARTY IN DES MOINES COUNTY

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BY L. O. LEONARD

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At the request of his children Professor Nathan R. Leonard, for many years head of the Department of Mathematics and Astronomy in the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City, in 1908 wrote a brief sketch of his early life in Des Moines County, Iowa, and some of his experiences while teaching in Yellow Springs College, at Kossuth.

In this sketch is an account of the founding of the Know Nothing political party in Des Moines County. As this account may prove to be a bit of interesting political history of those early days it is sent to you for such disposition as you may wish to give it. It reads:

“In politics my father and all his people were Whigs. About 1850 the slavery question created serious divisions in this party. Father was somewhat conservative, but grandfather and Uncle Aaron openly espoused the ideas of the progressive leaders of the day. Father was surreptitiously, I may say, captured about the year 1854, by the Know Nothing party, a capture for which I was partly responsible.

“Without his knowledge, or grandfather’s I had joined the new party which was then strictly a secret organization. Having a retentive memory, it was but a short time until I knew by heart the ritual of the order, the tedious and grandiloquent formularies for the initiation and instruction of members, and all the rest of it, and was made a sort of factotum for the organization in that part of the country.

“Plans were soon set on foot for a growth which would sweep our whole community into the new party. In ways too tedious to mention we got a man who stood well in the esteem of such as my father, father-in-law, and others in the community who thought they were themselves the leaders of the public sentiment, and had these agents of ours interview them cautiously and ply them with the stock arguments of the day in favor of the new party or society.



"More easily than we had expected, they were won over, and agreed to become members of the party if, when properly enlightened, they considered it the right thing to do.

"I remember well their initiation. It took place in the old brick Academy building which is still standing at Kossuth. The candidates were admitted into a little entry room. There was a large class of them, as many as the room would hold by close packing. Father, father-in-law and other leading men were amongst them. After waiting a suitable length of time the factotum appeared, attended by a young man to hold a candle for him. You can imagine how those grave old men looked when they saw that young chap appear in that role. However they felt, they maintained a sort of quizzical silence as they were gravely advised as to some of the leading principles of the order, but none of its secrets. They were then told that if with this presentation of outlines they still desired initiation the formal ceremony would proceed in the adjoining room. If not they were at liberty to retire and keep to themselves, as in honor bound, all that had thus far been divulged to them.

"It was a critical moment. At first it seemed possible that they would rise up in rebellion, but the situation had some philosophical as well as comical features, and they finally concluded that they were in for it whatever it was, and bowed in acquiescence to the solemn exhortation to prove themselves worthy to be countrymen of Washington and the immortal heroes of the Revolution. So they were taken in.

"At the next election, men nominated in secret councils of the party, and not publicly proclaimed as candidates, were triumphantly elected, making a clean sweep of the county.

"That victory was an astonishment to the outsiders. Grandfather was not in the secret, and was the implacable enemy of secret societies, but he never said a word to me about it. He was wise enough to see what it would lead to, and was satisfied.

"What transpired in our county was transpiring everywhere. The new party grew like Jonah's gourd, but it was formed of such incongruous materials that its continued existence was impossible.

WILLIAM SAVAGE,  
IOWA PIONEER, DIARIST, AND PAINTER OF BIRDS

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*[Continued from the October, 1933, number]*

*October 26, 1858.* Cut out Dr. Allen's cloak and sewed on it, and packed wood.

*27th.* Finished said cloak and worked on my pants. Rain.

*28th.* Pack wood and went to Cap's and got some molasses, and went to the timber and chopped a load of wood.

*29th.* Went to Hillsboro. Took Dr. Allen's cloak. L. and R. Wells came here and changed chickens.

*30th.* Went to mill and had Bennett's team to haul a load of wood, and hunting. Rain every day this week.

*31st.* Sunday. Chopped said load of wood and went to Salem.

*November 1, 1858.* Sewed some for Dr. Siveter (30 cts.) and S. and D. and I went to Frazier's sorghum works.

*2nd.* Sam S. and I went to Dr. Shriner's and to Steadman's cutlery.

*3rd.* Sewing all day for Dr. Siveter (75 cts.).

*4th.* Went from there to Uncle William's and helped lay cellar floor with stone.

*5th.* Underpinned Uncle's house with rock, and we killed two hogs.

*6th.* John and I hunted. I kill one prairie chicken and come home. Rain all this week.

*7th.* Sunday, hunting cow bell the cow lost on the 2nd. No find. Cleaned clock.

*8th.* Hunted bell and found it in brush fence. Put clock together and husked some corn.

*9th.* Shelled corn and hunted Bennett's horses and went to mill. Tom Siveter came here. First snow fell today.

*10th.* Hunting and Tom went home in evening.

*11th.* Went to mill, got my meal and commenced making Dr. S's pants.

*12th.* Help Wells undress two sheep some dogs killed early in the morning, then helped Cap kill a fat cow, and went back to Wells's and set trap.

*13th.* Went to Wells's and hunted till noon. Came home and sewed on Dr.'s pants.

*14th.* Sunday, snow an inch deep. Foddered cow second time this fall.

*15th.* Went around Stanley's and Weaver's field to Wells's.

*16th.* Sewing on Dr.'s pants.

*17th.* Finished said pants and made a shot pouch for David Siveter out of my coon skin, and went to Wells's and to Cap's after Anna.

*18th.* Harry Brothers and I ground our axes at Gill's, cut out my vest and went hunting.

19th. Cut two coats for Jack and Jim Bennett and cut some wood. A. Bennett hauled it.

20th. Work on schoolhouse free gratis.

21st. Sunday, paint a bird I killed four weeks ago.

22nd. Shelled some corn and took it to mill. Went to McCreadie's and to Sigler's field, and to Bennett's after Anna.

23rd. P. W. Bennett and I went to creek to get some peg timber, then he and I went to making shoes for his wife and girls.

24th. At the same.

25th. One half day at the same and a half day hunting hogs and mending Mr. Loomis' coat.

26th. Husking corn for said Loomis. Took a bushel basket for pay.

27th. Rain all day. Finished said coat and kill a hog, weighed 71½.

28th. Sunday.

29th. Went to Wells's, dug up some small peach trees he gave me, then I went to mill.

30th. Chopped and split rails for self.

December 1, 1858. Cord bed. Put handle in ax, shelled corn and went to mill.

2nd. Went to Salem and took Dr.'s pants and Dave's pouch. Stayed there all night. It snowed deep.

3rd. Went to Uncle William's, ate dinner, and came home by two bridges.

4th. Chopped wood.

5th. Sunday, went to Brothers'.

6th. Help O. M. Wells kill a beef and three hogs.

7th. Very cold. Fix my shoe and get some wood.

8th. Went to Josiah Bailey's. He paid me 30 cents for cutting a coat. Came home and shelled some corn.

9th. Took corn to mill and went to chop wood for self. I cut my left foot badly on big joint of small toe.

10th. Feed and cut wood.

11th. Shot two hogs for P. W. Bennett and he packed my wood.

12th. Sunday, David Siveter came here and brought pair of pants for me to make. L. and R. Wells came and we went to the creek, they to skate.

13th. Help O. M. Wells kill six hogs, then came home and cut out Dave's pants.

14th. Making Dave's pants.

15th. Had Cap Killebrew hauling wood and rails all day. He and I settled accounts even.

16th. In morning, help P. W. Bennett fix his boots. In evening, finished said pants.

17th. Kill a pig. Work on my vest and fix my shoe. Samuel Siveter came here.

18th. I fix the wadding in Sam's coat. Put my shoe on cut foot first time.



19th. Sunday, painting on cardinal grossbeak I caught in steel trap in my field.

20th. Hunted up the cattle and then went to Conley's and bought bottle of liniment, 25 cts. From there, up on prairie hunting. Rain and snow. Kill a possum.

21st. Commenced making Walter's sled. Uncle William and cousin John came with cattle to haul me some wood. Hauled one load and broke their sled roller. Then we commenced making a new tongue and roller. Finished it in morning.

22nd. I mended boots and shoes while they hauled wood and rails.

23rd. They went home. I mended Tom's boots and Aunt Mary's shoes.

24th. Shelled corn and took it to mill. Mend one shoe and got wood.

25th. Christmas. Went to Uncle William's. Took his boots and shoes. John and I hunted and I soled two boots.

26th. Sunday, stayed at Uncle William's.

27th. Came home and split some rails at home.



Charles Aldrich (left) and William Savage  
on the premises of Mr. Savage.

"Wednesday. Hoed in cane; O. plowed it. Trap 1 brown thrush, 1 robin, and one blue jay. Mr. Ed Harlan of Keosauqua and Mr. Aldrich from Des Moines here to look at bird pictures."—William Savage Diary, July 15, 1903.

28th. Commenced building fence around feed lot, and worked in house.

29th. Went to Wells's. Leonidas and I strapped his skates. Stayed there all day. Got  $5\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. tallow. Saw two wild geese fly south and turn east. Rained at night.

30th. Snowed finely. I made Walter's sled, and dog bell collar.

31st. A. C. Bennett and I went deer hunting. We each wounded a deer and lost them.

January 1, 1859. A. C. Bennett, Tom and I hunted. Killed nothing.

2nd. Sunday, Tom went home. He took Bounce dog with him. I went a piece with him.

3rd. Help A. C. Bennett kill a hog, and I shelled corn.

4th. Took corn to mill, and Anna and I killed two hogs.

5th. Cut up hogs, and fetched home my meal. Killed an opossum.

6th. Too cold to do anything but feed and make fire.

7th. The same.

8th. Work on L. Wells's wammus.<sup>1</sup>

9th. Sunday, H. Sneath and his wife here (to protracted meeting).

10th. Helped Bennett kill hogs.

11th. Killed two more hogs for Bennett and two for self.

12th. A. C. Bennett and I went to Rome with said hogs. I sold two for \$5.25.

13th. Commenced making last.

14th. Finished last and fixed one shoe and commenced the other.

15th. Finished my shoes and got up some wood.

16th. Sunday.

17th. Went to Wells's and told him about the taxes, and from thence to Weaver's. They not at home. Got up some wood and then went to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

18th. Went to Salem and paid my interest all up to Dr. Siveter. Sewed some for the Dr.

19th. Sewed some and went back to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

20th. Came home and got some wood.

21st. Very cold. I shelled corn. G. and W. Watson took it to mill for me, and waited and got it ground.

22nd. Intense cold. Chopped and split eighteen rails and poles and some wood.

23rd. Sunday.

24th. Threshed my buckwheat.

25th. Cut brush and cut out Walter's pants.

26th. Mend shoes at Bennett's half the day, then cut out Walter's coat.

27th. Fixed to go to Keosauqua. Rained so hard we did not go. I tracked a mink from my field to Wells's pasture and lost it on account the light snow and rain. Then sewed on said coat.

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<sup>1</sup>Wammus, an undercoat or jacket, usually with a short skirt.

28th. Went to Wells's and gave him money to pay my taxes. Then cut out Dr. Siveter's vest.

29th. Cut off brush in field.

30th. Sunday.

31st. Cut brush and went to creek bottom and set two steel traps.

February 1, 1859. Went to traps, and shelled corn and to mill. Finished Walter's coat.

2nd. Anna and I and the two boys went to Uncle William's. Left them there and I came back the same day.

3rd. Had a very bad cold. Sewed some on Dr. Siveter's vest and helped Harny Brothers kill some woods chickens.<sup>2</sup>

4th. Very cold. To trap, and stayed to Bennett's most of the time.

5th. Cold. Fed cattle and went to Bennett's.

6th. Sunday, to trap. Had a large mink in steel trap.

7th. Went to Uncle William's after Anna. Thawed and was very muddy.

8th. Stayed at Uncle William's. Snowed.

9th. Very cold, but we started and came home. Crossed at Warner ford and Carter bottom cutoff.

10th. Went to mill and got some meal. Sewed some.

11th. Sewing, and to the trap.

12th. To Bennett's, and pack wood.

13th. Sunday. Harny Brothers and wife came here.

14th. P. W. Bennett and I went to Bonaparte. I bought a sack of salt, \$1.60.

15th. To trap. Kill a possum, shell corn and went to mill.

16th. Got wood, sewed, went to trap.

17th. Finished Dr. Siveter's vest and got wood. Went to mill. Got my mail.

18th. Saw first wild geese. Went to Salem with Dr.'s vest. Heard blue birds. Stayed all night.

19th. Went to Uncle William's and stayed that night.

20th. Sunday. Came home. John S. was here.

21st. Mend John's and Thomas' boots, and went part way home with John and saw wild ducks. Anna sold mink skin, 75 cents.

22nd. Anna and I went to Sneath's. I stayed till noon, then went by creek and got my traps.

23rd. Mend my pants, split some rails south side of field, and set my traps below Sigler's mill.

24th. To trap and to Sneath's after Anna. While there it snowed so hard she could not come home. I came home.

25th. I started for Weaver's. Lem B. said he was not at home. I stayed there most of the day.

<sup>2</sup>Domestic chickens frequently take to the woods.—J. A. S. (This and subsequent notes thus initialed is by John Albert Savage, born September 17, 1868, to William, the diarist, and Anna, his wife. See *ante* for that date, ANNALS, XIX, p. 112. Any other footnotes are by E. R. Harlan, unless by neither of these, when they will be accredited to the source by name.—E. R. Harlan.)



26th. Mending my shoes.

27th. Sunday. Sneath brought Anna with his and Jim's wives on his ox sled on their way to meeting.

28th. Shelled corn and took it to mill, and to trap.

March 1, 1859. Rainy. Went on prairie chicken hunting and killed one. Saw meadow larks. Went to mill and got my corn meal. Bennett and I went over the creek and got some grass.

2nd. To trap and Samuel Siveter came here and we went to mill. Then I fixed his coat.

3rd. To trap and shelled corn. H. Giberson came and told me Mayberry Killebrew was very sick. Anna and I went there. He was dead. Died about noon. I went to Hillsboro for them. We stayed all night.

4th. Came home and fed and went back and stayed all that day.

5th. Mayberry buried at the Spencer graveyard. I drove Captain's team. Roads very muddy. Cap and family went to William Morris' and we stayed at Cap's house till Sunday evening when they came home.

7th. Heavy rain. Went to creek and got my steel trap. Was afraid the creek would rise over it as it did over my two-springed ones, which are five feet under water. Put a back in Dr. Allen's cloak.

8th. Went to Sneath's for milk and to bottom and to trap. Caught a mink in deadfall.<sup>3</sup>

9th. To trap and chop some poles for rails.

10th. To trap. Shot first duck this spring. Shot prairie chicken and a fox squirrel, and chopped poles.

11th. To trap. Got wood and went to Wells's and got my receipt. Took Dr. Allen's cloak for him to take to Hillsboro.

12th. Trap caught a possum. Went to mill, and to Loomis'. Got a small basket for fixing his coat. Mrs. McCreddie paid me \$1.00 cash. Tom Savage came here. I shelled some corn and we took it to mill and got it ground.

13th. Sunday, to trap. A possum in deadfall. I shot three ducks.

14th. Trap, and went home with Thomas. Stayed all night.

15th. Went to William Deacon's to get some black, white, and red current and gooseberry slips, then back to Uncle William's and helped fix the well and put a curb on. Stayed all night.

16th. Came home and set out said slips.

17th. To trap and got my large trap by taking off one spring and letting the chain remain in creek. Rained and finally turned to snowing furiously, and a very cold wind.

18th. H. Sneath came with his cattle and took a sack of corn to mill for me. He and I ground my ax, and got our corn ground.

19th. Went to Cap's and to Wells's and to Sneath's for milk. Wrote a letter for Mrs. Sneath.

20th. Sunday.

21st. Chopping brush for H. Sneath for one bushel seed corn.

<sup>3</sup>A trap, set commonly with figure four triggers so rigged under a log that falling, it crushes the animal.

22nd. For the same, he agrees to come and plow my field after he has done his own.

23rd. The same.

24th. Husk my corn and built part of the fence on south side of the field.

25th. Also next day grubbing for Sneath as before stated.

27th. Sunday. Kill two ducks.

28th. Cut pair pants for A. C. Bennett, fixed shoes and sewed in house. Stormy.

29th. Got wood, and went to Sneath's. They not at home. Went to Gill's shop. Found Sneath there. Told him I took my sack to his house.

30th. Went again to Sneath's and picked out my seed corn. Got wood.

31st. Went to Uncle William's and from there to Salem. Stayed all night at Dr. Siveter's.

April 1, 1859. Back to Uncle William's and fixed Tom's boot, and then home.

2nd. Got wood and sewed some, and moved the stove. John Savage came and I fixed his boot and went fishing, first time this spring. Caught two suckers.

3rd. Sunday. Kill one duck.

4th. Chopping poles and shelled corn and went to mill twice.

5th. Chopped poles, and cut out a coat for Hen Hopper.

6th. Splitting rails and dykes [or stakes.—J. A. S.] for O. M. Wells, 50 cts. per day. Same next day.

8th. Lem Bennett cut brush for me to pay for Arthur's pants, and I hunted in the evening.

9th. Piled brush, and went to Hillsboro and to Wells's.

10th. Sunday. Fixed my boot.

11th. Cut out a coat for L. McGee. P. M., work for O. M. Wells chopping.

12th. For the same in the stoop and making garden fence.

13th. The same.

14th. At home. Shelled corn and went to mill. Caught a good mess of fish.

15th. Got wood and went to Wells's. Stayed there chatting till afternoon. Bought  $8\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. soap of him. Chopped south side.

16th. I went to Uncle William's. Shot one duck and one turkey going.

17th. Sunday. Came home in evening and John with me.

18th. I mended a pair of boots for Uncle William. John went duck hunting. Kill two. C. Giberson sent for Anna, his wife being sick. I work on fence.

19th. Went to Hillsboro, bought one gallon molasses, 60 cts. P. M., worked on south fence.

20th. Not well. Burnt some brush in field.

*23rd.* Cut poles and commenced making garden. Sowed parsnips, beets, carrots and lettuce.

*24th.* Sunday. Kill two ducks.

*25th.* Cut brush, work on fence, and sowed grass seed.

*26th.* Fishing, came a tremendous hail, rain, thunder and lightning storm.

*27th.* Shell corn and put it aloft.

*28th.* Work on fence. Thomas Savage came here and we went fishing.

*29th.* Rainy. Fishing.

*30th.* Finished said fence, and Tom and I went fishing with Cap.

*May 1, 1859.* Sunday. Tom went home.

*2nd.* Fishing for Solomon Gill to partly pay him for making a hoe for me. Went in creek with Frazier's Co. seining. We caught thirty. Then work on fence.

*3rd.* Cut poles, shelled corn and went to mill. Caught eight fish, sold them for 10 cts.

*4th.* Went to McCreadie's, bought 7 lbs. pork. Went to Gill's with Jonathan Hoskins and got my hoe. Then worked on fence north.

*5th.* Making garden and fishing.

*6th.* Finished fence round shed yard.

*7th.* A. M. on fence. P. M., rainy, and fished.

*8th.* Sunday. We went to Carter bottom and dug flower roots, and I caught a good mess of fish.

*9th.* Fixed brush fence around pasture and work on pole fence.

*10th.* Burnt brush in yard and went to Sneath's to see how they prospered with their work. Set in there and helped plant Jim's corn and mark out Sneath's.

*11th.* Worked for Sneath.

*12th.* I carried our harrow to Sneath's for 25 cts. P. M., worked for Sneath.

*13th.* Worked for Sneath. Finished his old corn ground.

*14th.* Sneath came here with team and commenced plowing my ground.

*15th.* Sunday. Rain at night.

*16th.* Fix my boot, shelled corn and made hoe handle.

*17th.* Sneath came and tried plowing. It was too wet and we quit.

*18th.* Also 19th, plowing.

*20th.* Commenced marking out my ground.

*21st.* Finished marking out and I commenced planting.

*22nd.* Sunday. Pile preached here.

*23rd.* Sneath and I planting my corn.

*24th.* Rainy, but we finished planting my corn and went and chopped and split rails for Sneath.

*25th.* At the same.

*26th.* Rainy. Got most of my corn in the house.

*27th.* Making rails.

28th. Cutting and burning brush for Sneath.

29th. Sunday. Aunt Hannah died.

30th. Rain. Went to mill, got some corn ground, and caught fish. Made a bar and cut out Anna's shoes. Set out cabbage and tomato plants.

31st. Plant beans, dug a piece of ground and plant 14 potatoes Tom bought.

June 1, 1859. Old cow had heifer calf, Birdie. I helped O. M. Wells plant corn.

2nd. Also the 3rd and 4th, Planting, hoeing and fencing for Wells.

5th. Sunday.

6th. Cut poles and went to mill.

7th. Picked my corn with a fork and replant. It was covered too deep. Sam Siveter just called here. Rainy.

8th. Forking my corn.

9th. Finished my corn. Fix brush fence, east P. M. cut poles.

10th. Work on road south of Andrew Simon's.

11th. Work on road.

12th. Sunday. Went in creek swimming first time.

13th. Rain. Shelled corn and went to mill and got it ground. Went to S. Gill's and had fire shovel fixed and two [h]arrow spikes, and chopped sprouts and gave him some six-weeks [seed] corn for pay.

14th. Had P. W. Bennett plowing my new ground. I fetched the harrow from Cap's and we harrowed and marked it out. I planted a few rows. At night came a terrible storm.

15th. Cut out a coat for George Stanley, mowed weeds and set out tobacco plants. I went to Cap's.

16th. Went to Cap's with Anna and then fixed brush fence. Cut some poles. Rainy.

17th. Got wood, then went to Salem. Stayed all night.

18th. Traded some in town and went to Uncle William's. Rainy. We boys went fishing.

19th. Sunday. Bought 125 sweet potato sets. Brought a coat to make for Dr. Siveter.

20th. Set out sweet potatoes and cut out Dr.'s coat and planted corn.

21st. Went to Bonaparte with Cap, sold feathers (duck and chicken) for \$2.25 and bought six yards of cottonade and thread and two pairs of shoes for \$3.00. Caught a few fish.

22nd. Finished planting my new piece of corn and went to mill. Caught a good mess of fish and sewed on Dr.'s coat.

23rd. Had Cap's mare and plowed corn.

24th. The same. Rainy. P. M., went to Gill's shop and got ring and plow fixed.

25th. Finished Dr.'s coat.

26th. Sunday. Went to Salem with said coat.

27th. Sewing for Dr. and came home in evening.

28th. Worked on pole fence and hoed my sorgo some.



29th. Rainy. Worked on my pants. Got all my corn in house.

30th. Hog got in field. Mend my pants and went to mill, and hoed corn.

July 1, 1859. Hoe corn and garden.

2nd. Rainy. Finished my blue pants. Thomas Savage came here.

3rd. Thomas and I went to Wells's and then to the creek.

4th. Tom fished homewards and I hoed sorgo for old Cap.

5th. Hoed my sorgo and corn.

7th. Had Cap's mare to plow corn.

8th. Plowed part of day. Not well. Anna took mare home.

9th. Went to mill with Bennett's mare. Caught some fish. Went to Wells's and to Sneath's. Got some sage to dry.

10th. Sunday. We all went down to the creek.

11th, also the 12th, hoed corn.

14th. Rainy. Hoed some and helped Bennett kill a sheep.

15th, also 16th, harvesting for Wells. Hottest days.

17th. Sunday. Hunting some.

18th. Worked for Wells  $\frac{1}{4}$  day and then hoed corn at home. A heavy storm at night blew my corn down badly.

19th. Went with Wayne Watson to cut a bee tree on Rock Creek. He had a bucket full of honey. I hunted the rest of the day.

20th, also 21st and 22nd, mowing, haying and stacking for O. M. Wells.

23rd. Haying and hoeing for O. M. Wells, all for 75 cts. per day.

24th. Sunday. H. Brothers and wife here.

25th. Haying for O. M. Wells.

26th. Went to Salem, and from there to Uncle William's after a letter from Sarah Merritt.

27th, also 28th, and half of 29th haying for Wells, other half of 29th hoeing at home.

30th. Rainy. Fix my boots and pants.

31st. Sunday.

August 1, 1859. Shelled corn, went to mill and hoed corn at home.

2nd. Hoed in my new piece of corn. Rain at night.

3rd. Thomas Lefevere died. Rain. Cut out and sewed on Dr. Siveter's pants. David Siveter came here.

4th. He and I went to Scrabble Point turkey hunting. I killed my first one this season.

5th. Cut poles.

6th. Finished hoeing my new piece of corn.

7th. Sunday. Bee hunting.

8th, also the 9th. Stacking wheat at Wells's.

10th. Stacked hay for Wells a half day, the other half cut out Leonidas' coat.

11th, also 12th, sewing on same.

13th. Finished it, and cut out vest and sewed on Rufus Wells's coat.

14th. Sunday. Bee hunting. Found two trees. One I mark W. H., the [first] I had the pleasure of marking.

15th. Mowing for Sneath.

16th. One half day for same, other half sewed, went to creek bottom, and made a bee hive.

17th. Wells, L. R. and I went and cut my bee tree. Had about 50 lbs. of honey. Hived the bees. Came home and Anna and I and the boys went to Sneath's. They stayed all night and I came home.

18th. We went to Salem with Sneath and his family. On the road going the oxen broke the fore axletree. We rigged up with a pole and went to town and he had a new one made, \$2.50. I bought a sack of flour, \$2.85; Anna, dress, \$1.12½. I came home with Sneath and Anna stayed in Salem.

19th. Sewing.

20th. Sewed on two coats and went to mill. L. Wells came and stayed all night here.

21st. Sunday. He and I went bee hunting. I found two, and he one.

22nd. We went and cut said trees. Of my first, 60 lbs.; L. Wells, 20; my next, 8. The one who found the tree had the bees.

23rd. Divided our honey, and I cut brush and made fence.

24th. Cut poles and made fence.

25th. The same. Thomas Savage came here.

26th. Tom and I went down the branch to pick grapes. Watch treed some turkeys. I went to the house, got my gun and shot one turkey and one partridge. P. M., we picked some grapes.

27th. Very rainy, so that we could not go to camp meeting.

28th. Sunday. Tom and I went to Uncle William's and from there to camp meeting. I stayed at Dr. Siveter's all night.

29th. To camp meeting. Then David Siveter took Anna and the boys to camp ground and we rode home with Cap Killebrew.

30th. In A. M. I chopped brush and in P. M. Sam'l Siveter came. He and I went to Scrabble Point and stayed all night at Mr. James's. Had supper and breakfast. Sam paid 50 cts.

31st. Then went to George Sears's. Sam brought home a cow they lent him, Sears going to Ohio next day. Afternoon I cut poles and wood and went to Cap's.

September 1, 1859. Help Cap mow and stack part of his Hungarian grass in return for his mare.

2nd. Finished Dr. Siveter's pants. Sick at night.

3rd. Not well all day.

4th. Sunday. Better. Sneath and wife here.

5th. Went to Sneath's after Anna's shoes. They not at home. I hunted some. Hogs got in my cornfield. Second time I worked on fence.

6th. Help Cap stack his hay, and he hauled one load of wood for me. I work on fence.

7th. On said fence.

8th. At the same, finish north string.

9th. Rainy. Cut out and sewed Dr. Siveter's vest.

10th. Work on fence.

11th. Sunday. Stopped gap in fence. Went to Uncle William's all night.

12th. Went to Salem, sewed there in the afternoon. At night Thomas and David Siveter and I went to Wesleyan camp meeting.

13th. Went back to Uncle William's, from there to Sneath's and thence home.

14th. Went to mill and on other side of creek hunting. David Burden came here and he and I went to Wells's and to Sneath's and to Carter bottom hunting his ox Luke.

15th. A. M., on fence. P. M., went to Uncle William's to tell Dave I heard of his ox at Killebrew's.

16th. He came home with me and it was not there then. I picked some seed corn.

17th. Dave went home without his ox. I mended Anna's shoes and worked on my fence.

18th. Sunday. Paint a bird D. B. shot, resembling a moor hen, its name unknown.

19th. Rainy. Mend my pants and went to Well's' and picked elderberries.

20th. Finished said fence and wrote a letter for Mrs. Sneath.

21st. Commenced cutting my corn, one shock, it was too green. Then went over to creek to see my bees. Two stands at work well and one nothing in it. Sat up all night at Sigler's with the sick.

22nd. Sleepy. Got wood, shot three squirrels and carried rails down to gap to make hogpen.

23rd. Work for Cap quarrying and hunting rock, and cut and hauled a load of wood.

24th. Chopped wood afternoon. Had Cap's team and hauled two loads.

25th. Sunday. Went to Nicholas Boley's; they not at home, came back as far as Brothers'. Stayed there till middle of afternoon and came home and wrote a letter to John R. Wetsel. Rainy all day.

26th. Chopped wood and bladed sorgo for Cap.

27th. Shelled corn, took it to mill and cut corn, four shocks.

28th. Cut seven shocks corn.

29th. Cut six shocks.

30th. To Wells's and to Cap's twice. One of my shoats died. Buried it, and cut three shocks.

October 1, 1859. Cut five shocks.

2nd. Sunday. Shot four quails for W. D. Sigler and two squirrels, and we went to Wells's. He paid me \$3.75 in cash. Mrs. Sigler died.

3rd. Anna and I went to the funeral. Anna stayed at house and I went to graveyard. I cut a few hills of corn.

4th. Cut pants for West Runyan, and cut five shocks of corn.

5th. Cut five shocks.

6th. A sharp frost. Hunting and shelled corn and took it to mill. Cut two shocks.

7th. Thunder shower. Put up four shocks and finished, forty-two in all. Dug sweet potatoes and went to mill.

8th. Dug Irish potatoes, then shelled beans and made hogpen. H. Sneath and Samuel Siveter came here. I went down to creek bottom to see Sam's land.

9th. Sunday. Anna and I went to Uncle William's with Cap's team, and back at night.

10th. Work for Cap making molasses.

11th. Cut up my cane and Cap hauled it. Worked for Cap and called the day even.

12th. Boiled my juice and some of Wells's.

15th. Shot one prairie chicken. Received of Cap six gallons molasses, two due me. David Siveter came here. I not well.

16th. Sunday. I sick. David went home.

17th. Not well. Bennett and I went to Cap's. He helped me carry my molasses home and I mowed south fence corners. Then came the first snow squall.

18th. Better. Went down to Sneath's to see how they were. Kill three squirrels and one prairie chicken in field.

19th. To Cap's and got said two gallons of molasses. Shell corn and take it to mill. Fix side board and put rounds in ladder and clean out cistern.

20th. Cutting up and binding my fodder. Stack it up.

21st. Went to Cap's. Paid him borrowed powder, and to Wells's. Shot one hog. Got some beets and horse-radish leaves. Wheeled some manure.

22nd. Wheeling manure.

23rd. Sunday. Went over creek twice. Got my two bee hives.

24th. Cut out a coat for old Loomis. Went to Wells's to borrow his trowel, and daub some on house.

25th. Daubing house.

26th. Wheeled one load of lime and two of sand and plastered inside of house.

27th. Shelled corn and took to mill, then cut forks and fix eaves troughs.

28th. Went to creek and got white oak bark<sup>4</sup> for John. Kill one partridge. Took Wells's trowel home, and to Cap's and got my single-tree and clevice.

29th. Went on to prairie. Kill no chickens. Then went to Sigler's mill to the sale of bridge timber. I bought 1 long bar, 11 nuts and 11 caps for 35 cts. and sold the caps for 10 cts. to John Watson.

30th. Sunday. Went to N. Boley's. Not at home, then went to Widow C. Stanley's, stayed all day, shot prairie chicken.

31st. Cleaned one clock. Got wood and carry water. P. M., chopped in woods.

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<sup>4</sup>Inner bark of the white oak made an astringent tea or poultice, applied in various maladies.—J. A. S.



- November 1, 1859.* Cut wood. Kill one prairie chicken.
- 2nd.* A. C. Bennett and I hauled two loads of sand for them and one load of wood for self.
- 3rd.* Went to Uncle William's to ask John to apply for our school. Back at night.
- 4th.* Went to Captain's sale. I acted as clerk &c 36 cts. Bought big pot and taffy, \$1.00.
- 5th.* Cut out vest for Cap. Cleaned out hole. Sewed on Dr. Siveter's vest. At night I watched T. McCreddie's field.
- 6th.* Sunday. Anna and I went to Daniel Burger's on visit.
- 7th.* Not well. Went to Watson's mill. Got a bird John shot.
- 8th.* Unwell. Drew off said bird.
- 9th.* Better. Shelled corn.
- 10th.* Painted said bird. Jack Bennett took my corn to mill. At night Anna and I went to Bennett's party.
- 11th.* Sewed some and went to bed. At night came snow one inch deep.
- 12th.* Foddered cattle first time. Very cold. Carry water and did chores.
- 13th.* Sunday. At home.
- 14th.* On prairie hunting.
- 15th.* Chopped a load of wood. In P.M. A. C. Bennett hauled it for me.
- 16th.* Sewed some on Dr. Siveter's vest.
- 17th.* Finished said vest.
- 18th.* Helped P. W. Bennett tend his plasterer, Sam Pope.
- 19th.* Went to William C. Morris' and traded Lady heifer for three calves and a new ox yoke.
- 20th.* Sunday. To meeting. Jasper Boley buried.
- 21st.* James L. Davis and I took Lady to William C. Morris' and brought said three heifer calves back.
- 22nd.* Fix Dick's poker and the brush fence around calf lot, split four rails and chopped some wood.
- 23rd.* Husked and shelled some corn. Went to Job Davis' and helped him unload corn, then he hauled one load of wood for me. Went to mill and carried two boards up from creek.
- 24th.* Went as far as Sneath's. Rained. Stayed to dinner, then went to Salem. Rained very hard. Stayed at D. Shriner's all night.
- 25th.* Went to Dr. Siveter's. Dr. and I hunted some, then I sewed in house.
- 26th.* Sewed for Dr. till 2 o'clock, traded in Salem and went as far as Uncle William's and stayed all night.
- 27th.* Sunday. Kill prairie chicken and came home.
- 28th.* Cut out a coat for John Mac Davis and cut a pair of shoes for Walter.
- 29th.* Made said shoes.
- 30th.* Anna and I went on prairie to W. C. Morris' to get a bill of

Anna's wages written out legally. He advised me to write on east and get it written out there according to New York laws. Dr. Siveter came here and stayed all night.

*December 1, 1859.* Very cold. Husked and shelled corn, took it to mill and got it ground.

*2nd.* Lousy calf died. Chopped wood for self. Had Job Davis' one-horse team and hauled one load.

*3rd.* Partly cut a coat for James Carter, and helped Bennett kill two hogs. Cut out Jacob Runyan's coat.

*4th.* Sunday. Bennett and wife and Anna and I went to Jacob Davis'.

*5th.* Cut out a coat for James L. Davis.

*6th.* Work on Runyon coat and pack wood.

*7th.* The same, and cut two small sacks for W. C. Morris' boys.

*8th.* A. C. Bennett and I hauled barrel of water for them and a load of wood for self. Work on said coat.

*10th.* Finished said coat and went up to Morris' to post a stray calf that came there.

*11th.* Sunday. All went to Wells's.

*12th.* Cut out Wells's coat and sewed on it.

*13th.* At the same.

*14th.* At the same, and husked and shelled corn.

*15th.* Sent corn to Bonaparte mills by Bennett. Finished said coat and cut out R. Wells' coat.

*16th.* Sew on said coat. Eve at Bennett's party.

*17th.* Finished said coat.

*18th.* Sunday. One small steel trap missing out at Bennett's field. Chopped one load of wood and sewed some on J. Carter's coat.

*19th.* A. C. Bennett and I hauled a load of wood and I sewed.

*20th.* On said coat.

*21st.* Finished it and cut out a coat for Bennett.

*22nd.* Sewing some and chopped wood. A. C. Bennett hauled one load.

*23rd.* Help O. M. Wells kill a beef.

*24th.* Finished P. W. Bennett's coat.

*25th.* Christmas. Sunday. Anna and I went to Sneath's to dine.

*26th.* Hoop wash tub, shot a hawk, and chased a turkey.

*27th.* P. W. Bennett and I hauled two loads of wood. I commenced M. Sigler's coat.

*29th.* Finished said coat. Thomas Savage came here.

*30th.* Awful cold. Tom and I went to Bennett's and stayed all day.

*31st.* A. C. Bennett and I hauled one load of wood. I hauled up and husked fodder and cut wood at house and went home with Tom.

*January 1, 1860.* Sunday. At Uncle William's. Monday hunted some and came home.

*3rd.* Cut out M. Sigler's vest and hauled a load of ice with Bennett's team.

*4th.* Made said vest.

5th. Took it home and A. C. Bennett and I hauled a load of wood.  
6th. Went to Runyon's to get two sheep. Did not get them. It rained all day. Then went to Sigler's mill and cut off my iron bar.

7th. Went again to I. Runyon's and brought home said sheep as pay for making his coat. Thomas S. came here and I fix John's boots.

9th. Monday. Went to Sneath's and brought home a pig, \$2.00 in work. Then went to B. I. Livers' and Farmer's sheep lawsuit. Livers victorious.

10th. Shell corn.

11th. Went to mill twice with Bennett's mare.

12th. Fix my shoes with legs.

13th. A. C. Bennett and I hauled a load of wood and I sewed in house.

14th. Help Job Davis move his stable and crib.

15th. Sunday. David Siveter here. He and I went hunting and he went home.

16th. I killed three hogs at home.

17th. Help O. M. Wells kill seven hogs.

18th. P. W. Bennett and I hauled two loads of wood for him and two for self, then he and I kill my three hogs.

19th. Fix corn box and put Sandy and Ann pig in pen. Cut up hogs and went to Brothers'.

20th. Made my wammus.

21st. Made my pants.

22nd. Sunday. Hunting. Carry home a plank I got out of the creek.

23rd. Husked corn. Fix my brown coat, and A. C. B.'s shoes and made broom.

24th. Started for Salem. Went a little beyond Wells's and it rained and I came back and split some rails.

25th. Went to Salem. Saw a bluebird. Traded in town. Blackman and I fix my gun.

26th. Snow eight inches deep. Sewed for Dr. and came home.

27th. Chopped wood. P. W. B. [Bennett] and I hauled one load, then I hauled one, and one load of fodder.

28th. Went with Job and Mack Davis on north side of creek to catch three hogs with Watch. Then Mack and I went to I. Conley's to borrow his swine. Fix bureau.

29th. Sunday. L. Wells here. We went to Stanley's field and to creek.

30th. To Stanley's field. Cut a maul stick and to creek. Set two steel traps. Made maul and fix John's and Anna's shoes.

31st. Intense cold. Cut out a coat for I. Conley, cut wood and fed.

February 1, 1860. Took bar of iron to I. Conley's and got an ox staple and ring made and hook put on log chain. Went to Job Davis' and ground my ax.

2nd. Took staple and ring to W. C. Morris'. I killed four prairie chickens.

3rd. Dressed Birdie calf with sulphur and grease. Chopped wood, and to trap.

4th. Split some rails and trim brush in branch and hauled a load of wood, B.'s team.

5th. Sunday. L. and R. Wells and I went to the creek and got my two steel traps.

6th. Had Bennett's team and hauled three loads of wood.

7th. Bennett and I went to mill and got our grinding. I cut stove wood, and went to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

8th. Went up on prairie east and to John's school and then home and carried rails to make fence by branch.

9th. Mighty cold. Mended my overcoat. Went to Sigler's after money. He not at home.

10th. Work for Sneath.

11th. The same, cutting brush, part pay for a pig.

12th. Sunday. Sneath and family here.

13th. For Sneath, making brush fence.

14th. Cut wood for self and work on fence by branch.

15th. Bennett's and I hauled three loads of wood for them and two for self.

16th. Split 51 rails for self on Dr.'s land.

17th. Split 34 rails and cut some wood.

18th. Split 24 rails and cut wood.

19th. Sunday. N. Boley and wife here, and Jacob Syphers and family here (a protracted meeting at the Rock House).

20th. Went up to I. Conley's. He not at home. I fixed my iron wedge, then put a window in south door, and split eight rails and cut wood.

21st. Split thirty-two rails and cut wood. Saw wild duck and flock of pigeons.<sup>5</sup>

22nd. Rainy. Cut stick for ax handle.

23rd. Went to creek and got some elm bark, then went to I. Conley's and got Dr. S. and my tax receipt. Went to prairie and killed eight prairie chickens.

24th. Killed one prairie chicken on fence by home. Made handle for meat ax, and went to schoolhouse. Kate had a calf, Bally. Went to Bennett's party at night.

25th. Had Bennett's team and hauled fourteen loads of wood. Marth Sneath here two nights.

26th. Sunday. I went to creek and to Bennett's.

27th. Hung up meat in pantry to smoke. One sheep had a lamb.

28th. Cut wood and split 15 rails. Bennett and I went to Job Davis' and ground my two axes.

29th. Cut wood and split 30 rails and dressed calf skin.

March 1, 1860. Split 67 rails and cut some wood.

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<sup>5</sup>This was the wild pigeon, *ectopistes migratorius*.



2nd. Went to Salem and traded some. Stayed at Dr. Siveter's all night.

3rd. Sewing for Dr. Siveter all day. Went to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

4th. Sunday. Came home. Found Thomas Savage here.

5th. I mended Lem Bennett's boots and Thomas' boots and went to creek. Shot a c[ommon] partridge.

6th. Rainy. Went to creek. Weather cleared off and I went to Job Davis' and helped him trim apple trees.

7th. The same.

8th. Went to Solomon Gill's shop. He made me an iron wedge, 50 cts., and seven harrow teeth, 35 cts. I blowed and struck and furnished the iron.<sup>6</sup>

9th. Mended S. Gill's shoes, 10 cts., and went on prairie to Samuel Carter's.

10th. Making 115 rails for Solomon Gill, 75 cts.

11th. Sunday. Shot my first duck this spring at Carter's bottom.

12th. Work for Henry Sneath cutting brush. Finished paying for Ann, pig.

13th. Split 55 rails, 48 of them out of a drift log on Carter Island, and carried them up the bank.

14th. Shot one prairie chicken, split 28 rails and shot two ducks.

15th. Split 40 rails and chopped wood.

16th. Shot two prairie chickens. Went to trap. Caught a fox squirrel. Grubbed up butternut roots and fixed brush fence around pasture.

17th. Shot one prairie chicken and split 69 rails.

18th. Sunday. We all went down to the creek.

19th. Made mat for Dr. T. Siveter and went to mill with Mack Davis.

20th. Cut wood and split 40 rails.

21st. Killed two ducks and grubbed.

22nd. Went to Salem, traded some and went to Dr. Siveter's and stayed all night.

23rd. Sewed some for Dr., went to Uncle William's and then home.

24th. Got my ox yoke from Job Davis's, made keys and holes in bows, and went hunting.

25th. Sunday. Anna, John and I went to Uncle William's on Bennett's mare Eliz and back at night.

26th. Cut vest and pants for Thomas McCreddie, 50 cts. Went to Job Davis'. Then grubbed for self.

27th. Yoked up Dick and Peter, and grubbed.

28th. Went to creek bottom. Kill two ducks. P.M., grafted apple trees for Job Davis. Set 28 scions.

29th. Grubbing. Grafted three trees, yellow harvest, for self by the house.

<sup>6</sup>Frontier blacksmiths often afforded the customer opportunity to operate the smith's bellows and to assist him by wielding a supplemental hammer, for doing which something was deducted from his bill, and a further deduction was allowed when he furnished his own stock.

30th. Commenced making garden and grub.

31st. A. [Anna] planted onions and I grubbed and went to creek bottom. In the evening rain and thunder.

April 1, 1860. Sunday. Hunting in A. M. Kill a pigeon, a squirrel and two ducks. L. and R. Wells here.

2nd. Portrayed one of said ducks. If it is a duck, it resembles a coot. Grubbed some.

3rd. Put two hoops on washtub and write a letter for Mrs. Sneath and grubbed.

4th. Grubbing. John and Cyrus Garrettson came here. We hunted the cattle and found them, then we yoked up Dick and Peter and they took them home to put in their team to plow. Saw a wild turkey in my field.

5th. James Carter came here with his team and wagon and hauled rails all day and finished paying for the making of his coat.

6th. Went to Job Davis' after saw, and then grubbed.

7th. Grubbed and burned brush. P. M. kill two ducks.

8th. Easter Sunday. Samuel Siveter, L. and R. Wells and I shot some fish on riffle in Big Cedar. I kill one common partridge.

9th. Cut out vest for Walter G. Dug parsnips. Grubbed. Thomas Siveter came here.

10th. Made pair pants for Thomas, 75 cts.

11th. Cut out a coat for Solomon Gill. Helped chain half around Dr. Siveter's north 80 acres with Dr., Thomas, Samuel and David Siveter. I killed eight fish on Carter Island. Cut out a vest for S. Gill.

12th. Carried off my corn and J. Mack Davis commences plowing my ground. I dug garden and planted four rows of potatoes, and commenced making rail fence east side of field.

13th. On said fence and made John A. S. [Savage] a pair of shoes.

14th. Went to Bennett's, had their horses, and to Job Davis', had his wagon, then we all went to Salem. Traded some, went to Dr. Shriner's and to Dr. Siveter's, and then to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

15th. Sunday. Stayed there till P. M. Brought one bushel potatoes and my plow, &c., home. Thomas and John Savage came here Saturday. John went home, Thomas stayed till we came home.

16th. Fixed Tom's boot and cut out a coat for Thurman Elarton and grub some.

17th. Tom went home. I went part way with him and killed seven ducks. Sewed some on S. Gill's coat and grubbed.

18th, also 19th, planting corn for H. Sneath.

20th. Went to Croton on Des Moines River fishing with Garens and Wayne Watson, Job Davis, Benjamin Weaver and Leonidas Wells.

21st. Fishing.

22nd. Sunday. Came home. Did not catch many fish.

23rd. Grubbed, and P. W. Bennett and I put a new side on my harrow.

- 24th. Went to mill and grub.  
25th. Harrowing for P. W. Bennett  $\frac{3}{4}$  day and  $\frac{1}{4}$  day for self.  
26th. Finished harrowing my piece, then Len B. and I marked it out one way, and I grubbed.  
27th. Planting corn for Job Davis.  
28th. Plant for Job  $\frac{1}{2}$  day and  $\frac{1}{2}$  day J. Mack Davis and I marked out my ground the other way with Job's horses.  
29th. Sunday. I kill one turkey. Then Job Davis, Sam Davis, William Barger, Frank Lucas and I went to Warner ford. I kill one duck and four fish.  
30th. Job Davis helped me plant corn, and we commenced making a seine.  
May 1, 1860. Finished planting my old ground corn. Left eleven rows, south side, for sorgo, and a patch of potatoes on west side.  
2nd. Cut brush and put around spring, and grub some and knit on sein.  
3rd. Went to Salem and back at night.  
4th. Also the 5th., plant corn for P. W. Bennett.  
8th. P. W. Bennett helped me grub.  
9th. Bennett and I grubbed and burned brush.  
10th, also the 11th, grubbed.  
12th. Grubbed. David Siveter and Isaac Pigeon came here.  
13th. Sunday. We went to the creek and in the evening they went home.  
14th. Grub, and went to Vega Post Office.<sup>7</sup>  
15th. Grubbed.  
16th. Burning brush and chopping poles.  
17th. Cut poles and Lem and I hauled some roots to the house.  
18th. Hunt horses. Lem and I hauled roots and Lem commenced plowing. H. Sneath came with his cattle and hauled six loads of rails, I with him in afternoon.  
19th. Lem B. and I plowed on my new ground.  
20th. Sunday. I portrayed a black-throated orchard oriole. Anna went to Wells's, then the boys, L. and R. and I went to the Carter bottom.  
21st. Lem B. and I finished plowing my new ground, and I took Bricen Mickey's plow home. Bennett went to town, then I had the horses and harrowed said new ground.  
22nd. Cut out a coat for Jacob Syphers, then had Eliz mare and marked off said ground. Then we planted watermelons, muskmelons, sweet corn and cucumbers, and I burnt a piece of brush fence.

<sup>7</sup>This was a country post office established in 1851 near the northwest corner of Salem Township, Henry County. Joseph M. Frame was postmaster until the late 1860's when George Chapman assumed the duties. In 1877 it was removed two or three miles northwest to the northeast corner of section 35, Round Prairie Township, Jefferson County, though Mr. Chapman continued as postmaster until 1891 when he was succeeded by Abel Trueblood, and he by Nathan O. Elliott in 1895. It was discontinued in about 1900. Authorities: *U. S. Official Register*, and early Iowa maps.

23rd. Made a piece of pole fence and planted corn.

24th. Finished planting my new piece of corn and potatoes. Hilled up 44 sweet potato hills.

25th. Warned out on road to work. Lem G. Bennett worked in my place and I mended his shoes. P. W. B. [Bennett] and I went to Jonathan Hoskin's. I got 125 sweet potato plants, 25 cts., and set them out in the evening.

26th. Work on road. Thomas McCreadie paid me 90 cents.

27th. Sunday. We all went to Nicholas Boley's. P. M., I went to Job Davis' and we finished our seine.

28th. Sewing on S. Gill's coat. P. M., Thomas Savage came here. He, Anna and self went to Carter bottom gooseberrying.

29th. Thomas went home and I sewed on Gill's coat.

30th. Went to Salem. Took 14¼ lbs. butter @ 8 cts. Sewed for Dr. Siveter that day. Stayed all night.

31st. Sewed some, then went to Uncle William's and got some tomato plants. And then home, and sewed on David Siveter's pants. He brought two pairs on Wednesday.

June 1, 1860. Sewing on said pants.

2nd. Finished said pants and Sol Gill's coat. A heavy thunder storm this evening and a tremendous rain.

3rd. Sunday. Went to Salem with David's pants. Came home in P. M. Samuel came with me.

4th. Samuel went on north side of the creek. I hoed in my corn.

5th, also 6th, help Bennetts replant and hoe corn.

7th. Replant my corn, and fix brush fence, then fix boot and shoe.

8th. Cut pair of pants for Mac Davis and fix my shovel plow. Went to Carter bottom, found Bennett's horses and plowed my corn.

9th. Hunting B.'s horses till noon. Called at Sneath's and at Wells's. I went to Bennett's party.

10th. Sunday. Wells and I bee hunting, and then P. W. B. and I horse hunting. Did not find them.

11th. Lem B. and I went to Salem bridge, found the horses, then I plowed in my corn. Heavy rain at night.

12th. Shell corn, spade garden, went to mill and caught some fish, and drew a branch of skunk wood.<sup>8</sup>

13th. W. B. and I went to Carter bottom, got two horses and plowed corn.

14th. Lem and I went after the horses. I plowed corn and broke my big clevice. Went to Widow Stanley's and got Bennett's clevice and plowed more.

15th. Hunt horses, and finished plowing my corn in about an hour, and then plowed my sorgo.

16th. Hoed corn. Anna went to Hillsboro, took 13¾ lbs. butter. Bought her a pair of shoes and a pound of coffee.

<sup>8</sup>Or skunk hazel. The pungent sumac—*rhus*.



17th. Sunday. Painted ground work for two birds, and Anna and I went to Carter bottom.

18th. Hoed corn at home in A. M. and plowed corn for Bennetts in P. M.

19th. Plowed corn for Bennetts.

20th. Hoeing my corn.

21st. Shot a weasel in new field, and hoed my corn, and fixed Lem B.'s boot.

22nd. Finished hoeing my new piece of corn and hoed in old ground. Wrote a letter to J. R. Wetsel and went swimming.

23rd. Worked in old ground.

24th. Sunday. Bee hunting.

25th. Hoeing.

26th. Finished hoeing my corn and potatoes at 9 o'clock and poled beans, cut out a coat for Harrison Bub Gill, put cuffs on Sol Gill's coat, &c., and went to John Turnham's and bought  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon whiskey, 30 cts.

27th. Went east to creek picking gooseberries, and to Wells's, then cleaned out spring.

28th. Rain. Cut out my ticking pants and went to Gill's blacksmith shop and got an open ring, a link for a chain, a small hoe, and two heel wedges<sup>9</sup> and two scythes fixed, 45 cts. Went to Wells's. Rain very heavy.

29th. Went to Carter bottom and got some foxglove roots and caught some fish. Made a bee box, set out beets, and work on fence.

30th. Work on said fence. Thomas Siveter came here. Rains hard and we went swimming.

July 1, 1860. Sunday. Went as far as Sneath's with T. Siveter, and back with Sneath. I to Wells's and he to meeting, then Job Davis and the boys and I went bee hunting and swimming.

2nd. Hunting old cow. A man here to take the census, stock \$100, land \$616. Sewed on tick pants and mend my shoe. Went to creek and got a bolt of wood for shingles and fastened it to the bank. Then went to Demo' meeting.

3rd. Very hot. Had Bennett's team and borrowed A. Simon's wagon and hauled six loads of rails and wood and said bolt of wood.

4th. Rufus Wells and I celebrated this day hunting and swimming. I shot an orchard oriole, a common partridge, and a redheaded woodpecker.

5th. Work on rail fence. E. and Anna and I went on north side of creek gooseberrying.

6th. Drew orchard oriole, and work on said fence and cutting out the brush.

7th. On said fence, and cut pair of pants for Mack Davis.

8th. Sunday. Painted said oriole and went on north side of creek.

9th. Commenced harvesting. Bound wheat for Job Davis half day, other half went to mill, and fixed my pants.

10th. Went up on prairie to William Morris' and got work there

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<sup>9</sup>Devised for tightening handle-rings of a scythe, or cradle snath or handle.

harvesting. Pitched hay an hour and a half, then William commenced cutting his wheat and I bound wheat. The same the 11th.

12th. Cut H. Morris' wheat.

13th. For H. and William Morris in wheat and oats.

14th. Mowing for William C. Morris. Earned of him \$5.00.

15th. Sunday. Tom Lewis and Joel Garretson came here and we went swimming.

16th. Went up on prairie. Came home and got my scythe and mowed grass  $\frac{1}{2}$  day for Arthur Frazier. Received 50 cts.

17th. Help Alexander Morris bind wheat three hours, received 25 cts., then went on to George Morris' and bound wheat for him. Did same 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st until noon, at \$1.00 per day. Earned this week \$4.75.

22nd. Sunday. At home.

23rd. Went up on prairie and mowed grass in forenoon, and in afternoon plowed corn.

24th. Plowed corn and shocked hay.

25th, also 26th, plowed corn.

27th. Plowed corn. In afternoon tore down an old fence, and hauled hay into the barn.

28th. Plowed corn in forenoon, all for W. C. Morris, 50 cts. per day. Earned this week \$2.75. In afternoon brought home a buck sheep W. C. M. gave us for taking care of his heifer, Lady.

29th. Sunday Had Bennett's horses and Simon's wagon and we all went to Uncle William's, and back at night.

30th. Rainy. Hunted and shelled corn and took it to mill and got it ground.

31st. Painted a flag for the Demo' party at Jacob Sypher's.

August 1, 1860. Went to Salem and sold 17 lbs. butter, 10 cts. in trade. Went to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

2nd. Came home, dug up a turnip patch and sowed turnips.

3rd. Hunting and blackberrying. Shot at on the wing and think I killed two young turkeys, but lost both of them. Rainy.

4th. Went to Salem. Saw them raise a Lincoln pole and heard two speeches, one from Senator Harlan and one from a Wilson from Fairfield. Coming home I found an Indian ax. Great excitement about presidential election.

5th. Sunday. Rainy. L. and R. Wells here, and H. Sneath and wife here. Boys and I went to creek.

6th. Cut weeds in fence corners. After noon helped Bennetts wind up dirt out of their well.

7th. Went blackberrying, pick a milk bucket nearly full, and hunted bees.

8th. Went to Weaver's grubbing, frolic and party at night at Jack Shriner's house.

9th. Clean out well in branch, hoop a bucket, mend my pants, and go to Uncle William's.

10th. John and T. and I went to creek and got some sand, went swimming, then I built a small chimney in kitchen for Uncle William, and hunted.

11th. Took my wool to Salem, bought a molasses barrel, 75 cts., then back to Uncle W.'s and from thence home. David Siveter here and we went hunting.

12th. Sunday. David and I hunting.

13th. David and I hunting in forenoon. Kill in all two squirrels, one quail, one common partridge and one rabbit. David went home. I cut out Dr. Siveter's vest.

14th. Picked blackberries and grapes and sewed on vest.

15th. Birdie heifer got into cornfield. Dogged her out and fixed the fence, and fixed the brush fence around the pasture, and sewed on vest.

16th. Finished said vest. Anna went to Sneath's. I cut a summer coat for self. Went to Carter bottom with O. M. Wells and a cattle buyer to look at my steers. They were too small for him.

17th. Went to creek bottom picking grapes. Met Wells and chat with him, then sewed on my coat.

18th. Hunt bees and sewed some.

19th. Sunday. William F. Barger, L. and R. Wells and I went bee hunting. Anna went to Wells's. I made a mole trap and caught one in flower bed.

20th. Sewing and went to Wells's and got some of my salt.

21st. Finished my coat.

22nd. Shelled  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of corn and went to Job Davis' and borrowed his wagon bed.

23rd. Went to Salem with Bennett and wife. Took Dr. Siveter's vest, and brought home my barrels and rolls. Paid \$1.00.

24th. Sent said corn to Bonaparte mills by Lem Bennett. I mended my shoes. Afternoon shot and saved my first wild turkey this season. Caught Ann pig in Bennett's cornfield and put her out.

25th. Went to M. E. camp meeting with Rufus Wells. We went to Uncle William's at night.

26th. Sunday. Rufus, Thomas, Aunt Mary and I went to camp meeting at night. R. went home and T. and I went back to Uncle William's.

27th. Thomas came home with me. We picked cherries, &c. I made bowstring.

28th. Thomas and I hunted and fished. I shot one squirrel and one turkey and we caught fourteen fish. Afternoon, Thomas Siveter here. He, Tom and I went to creek swimming.

29th. Fix brush fence, and bent broomcorn tops. Thomas Savage went home. Thomas Siveter and I went swimming. P. M., I fixed my shoes and went to creek and shot a fish, weight  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., and we swam.

30th. Grub some. T. Siveter and I went to Job Davis' and ground my ax and mattock and went to Wells's after my steelyards. Thomas went home. I fixed my pants and commenced digging hole under floor.

31st. Grub an hour or two in morning (midday too hot, nights very

cool) and dug in said hole. Picked some seed corn. Hunting. Cut up one shock of corn. In the night C. Giberson came after Anna, his wife being sick. Had a son.

*September 1, 1860.* Wrote a letter to John Wetsel. Nailed some boards overhead. Fixed fence and picked hazelnuts.

*2nd.* Sunday. Went to Simon's and to Runyon's to look for my sheep. Came home. Rufus Wells here. He and I hunted some. Beannett put my sheep in his pasture and in evening we separated them.

*3rd.* Went to Salem. Took  $9\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. butter, traded out. Came home at night.

*4th.* Cut up seven shocks of corn.

*5th.* Rainy. Gathered seed corn and hung it up. Afternoon, cut three shocks of corn.

*6th.* Very hot. Cut three shocks. Partly traded with Frazier for a colt pony. In the morning I withdrew.

*7th.* Cut four shocks.

*8th.* Cut one shock. Went to Glasgow. Demo' pole raising, two speeches.

*9th.* Sunday. Hunting. Leonidas Wells hunted. Found me at Hopper branch. Then O. M., L. and R. Wells and self went to C. Creek hunting cedar trees. I got twenty-four very small ones.

*10th.* Cut six shocks of corn.

*11th.* Cut five shocks and hunted some.

*12th.* Cut two shocks and it rained the remainder of the day.

*13th.* Cut corn; and the forks and poles, five shocks.

*14th.* Work on road nearly one half day. Finished my road tax, \$2.46—6/10, then cut half a shock of corn and it rained.

*15th.* Cut corn and the forks and poles, two and a half shocks.

*16th.* Sunday. L. Wells and I went to Cook's burned mill, and I shot one duck and one pigeon.

*17th.* Shot one pigeon and cut five shocks.

*18th.* Cut corn, five shocks. Finished cutting my corn 4th hour p. m. Forty-eight shocks in all.

*19th.* Hunting. Saw sand-hill cranes. Shot three partridges and cut up and topped broom corn and shelled off some seed. Fixed fence where Bally broke out and Dick broke his poker.

*20th.* Fixed said poker and bladed some sorgo. Afternoon cut up corn for O. M. Wells to pay up the difference between us, 21 cts.

*21st.* Grubbed some and bladed cane, and hunted.

*22nd.* Hunted old cow and went up on prairie to see about getting my cane made up. Widow C. Stanley agrees to make it for one third, I to find wood. Then went as far as Oldacre's, and then home. Fix my cap and cut a pattern of it.

*23rd.* Sunday. Wrote a letter to Mother, went to class meeting and dug our sweet potatoes.

*24th.* Went to Simon's and borrowed their wagon, unloaded it and hauled two barrels of water. P. M., bladed cane.



25th. Bladed cane. Saw wild geese going south. Finished my cane.  
26th. Helped Job Davis strip his cane. At night a heavy rain.  
27th. Helped Job strip cane. Cut wood and cut up cane.  
28th. Bound up the rest of my blades and cut up and topped my cane.  
29th. Mack Davis and I hauled my cane to Stanley's with Job's team and Simon's wagon, and then we went up on the prairie to William Morris'. I shot one quail.

30th. Sunday. Rainy. I made one shoe for John A.

October 1, 1860. Made the other shoe and commenced shelling corn. Then went and cut up and topped the rest of Job E. Davis' cane.

2nd. Job and I went and helped William Stanley repair his mill cog, the second roller, &c., gratis.

3rd. Fix my cow yard fence that Dick knocked down. Then shelled some corn. David Siveter came here with team. I went to Salem with them and David and I went hunting. Stayed at Dr.'s all night.

4th. Traded some and went to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

5th. Came home. P. M., went to Job Davis' and Mack and I hauled one load of wood up to Stanley's. I stacked my blades.

6th. Went to mill, took some corn. Cut out a coat for Lewis Sigler, then dug potatoes and Mack D and I went to Stanley's and got our molasses.

7th. Sunday. R. Wells and I went to the creek north and then home and to Wells's. L. and R. and I went to creek east.

8th. Dug potatoes and mend Thomas Siveter's pants.

9th. Dug potatoes and cut a pair of pants for John Hen Mastersen. Samuel here. I work on mending T. Siveter's coat. Helped Samuel fix his wagon to haul rock. In the night Watch treed a skunk up a jack oak by the house. About 2 o'clock I got up and struck a light but could not see where it was.

10th. Shot said skunk and finished Thomas' coat, then went to John Turnham's. I shot one common partridge, one quail and one turkey.

11th. First frost I saw this fall. Cut out and sewed on Dr. Siveter's coat and dressed skins.

12th. Sharp frost. Sewed on said coat. Kill two rabbits and one possum that Watch treed. Shot one prairie chicken on corn shock, the first this fall.

13th. Freeze. Sewing. Went to Rock House meeting. There saw William Coltrane, Brice Mickey, and William, Josephine and Caroline Sigler taken in as M. E. members. The latter three were sprinkled. Finished said coat.

14th. Sunday. Hunting. Shot one squirrel.

15th. Fixed J. Wesley Runyon's coat.

16th. Fixed Samuel Siveter's coat and chopped wood on north side of creek. Samuel hauled one load, then worked on pair of pants for Davis Siveter.

17th. Hunt two hours, then sewed on said pants.

18th. Finished said pants. Went to Wells's and Sneath's. Borrowed 3¾ lbs. flour of Sneath.

19th. Went to Keosauqua. Delegation went in the hickory wagon with L. and R. Wells, W. E. Taylor, T. Clarke, B. Weaver, William, James and Newton Stanley, L. J. and T. Walker, L. and A. Bennett, back at night.

20th. Hunt cows and trim some brush. Went to Wells's. Picked up some crab apples and Leo and I went hunting.

21st. Sunday. Anna and I went west side of branch and picked out a spot for a house and went to Samuel Siveter's well. I sewed some on wammus and traced out my west line between Knowles and me.

22nd. Dug potatoes. Samuel Siveter came here. He and I went to Carter bottom and caught their heifer and took her to Salem. Saw the Salem men bring in a horse thief from Luray, Missouri. His name, Frank Arnold, of Salem. Stole a span of horses of William Crew. Was at his trial [preliminary] at night. He was bound over to court, \$1,000 bond.

23rd. Came home and shelled corn.

24th. O. M. Wells and I went to Bonaparte to mill with said corn and got home in the night.

25th. Hunt cows, dig out spring and cut poles and put around it, and dig potatoes. Shot one prairie chicken in field. Have to hunt cows every evening now.

26th. Rain. Finished fixing David Siveter's coat and Samuel's pants, and finished digging potatoes.

27th. Rainy. Foddered calves second time. Grubbed some. Went south of Hillsboro, shot five quails. Hunt for cows and did not find them.

28th. Sunday. Hunt cows. Found them near Samuel's well. Carried poles and made hog pen.

29th. Bennett and I went to Keosauqua to get my papers of naturalization. Judge Sloan would not issue any. Left Lem at Bratton's grove and I came home.

30th. Grub, and bury my potatoes.

31st. Grub. Went to Hillsboro. Got a letter from Smith & Co., Keosauqua.

November 1, 1860. Cut out another pair of shoes for John A. Rainy and cold.

2nd. Rainy. Made said shoes, and knit on quail net.

3rd. A. M., hunting. Kill one turkey. P. M., carry wood and fix so as to go to Salem.

4th. Sunday. Went to Uncle William's. Stayed all night.

5th. Snow. Went to Salem with my butter and eggs, \$1.07 worth. Traded it out, and 62 cents more. Went back to Uncle William's and then home.

6th. Burned brush and grubbed.

7th. Fixed my shoe and grubbed.

8th. Snow on ground. I grubbed.

9th. Grubbed. Trapped seven quails and shot one turkey that Watch treed northwest of school house.

10th. Hunt cows and grubbed some and burned brush.

11th. Sunday. To Wells's to meeting and to mill. There Meshack Sigler baptized by pouring. Sold Dick and Peter for \$32.50 to Job E. Davis.

12th. Went to Gill's, to Wells's and to Sneath's to borrow a wagon. Got Sneath's and Job Davis' horses and hauled three loads of wood. Trapped four quails.

13th. Grub and burn brush. Trapped seven quails.

14th. Went to John Turnham's after my jug. Bought one half gallon whiskey, 30 cts., one quart for Wells. Cut out a coat for A. Martin, 30cts.

15th. Shelled corn. Anna and I went to the spring to wash. I grub and burn brush.

16th. Grub and burn.

17th. Grub. Kill a rabbit and one fox squirrel.

18th. Sunday. Hunted.

19th. Went to Wells's. Sent letter to John R. Wetsel. Hooping my quail net.

20th. Grub.

21st. Grub. At night watch Sigler's field on the 20th and 21st.

22nd. Snow all day. Made last for Walter.

23rd. Cut out coats for William and Harmon Giberson. Take pay in work. Cut out pair shoes for Walter. Awfully cold. Snow two inches deep. Giberson boys brought home my small steel trap, the one I lost in Bennett's field the Sunday before Christmas last. Said they found it very near their house about that time.

24th. Sewed some on said shoes, and Mrs. Bennett and I made some shoe wax.

25th. Sunday. Hunting for sign.<sup>10</sup>

27th. Fix my gray pants. Shot one crow and one owl.

28th. Went to Job E. Davis' and to Wells's, then cut road to some wood and Mac D. and I hauled one load.

29th. Gathered corn for Job and Mac Davis.

30th. Went to Salem and bought a pair of boots, \$3.75, then to Uncle William's and stayed all night.

December 1, 1860. Came home. Carried one half bushel apples he gave me. Dr. and David Siveter here. David and I went to north side of creek. Found them hunting the lines.

2nd. Sunday. Snowed fast nearly all day. Hunted some.

3rd. Snow four inches deep. Knit on quail net and wrote a letter for Mrs. Sneath to T. L. Deacon, Liberty, Amite County, Mississippi.

<sup>10</sup>A trapper's term implying evidence of quarry, as the scratching or dusting of birds, their feathers on the ground or on shrubs, their tracks; or those of animals in the dust, snow, or mud, and the like.

26th. Made said shoes and cut out a coat for George Martin.

4th. I cut a coat for Frank Runyon, then cut one for Joseph and agreed to make it for \$2.00. Commenced sewing on said coat.

5th, also the 6th, sewing on the same.

7th. Finished said coat.

8th. Chopping wood in my timber and partly cutting a road to it.

9th. Sunday. Went to Uncle William's. Took two roosters and his Mo. seed corn. Snows all day.

10th. Came home. Brought two roosters back. J. Runyon here with Frank's coat to make. Mack Davis and I hauled three loads of wood. At 10 o'clock, eve, Samuel Richard Savage born. Had Mrs. Bennett.

11th. Went to Sneath's, got my steelyards. Did housework and sewed some on Frank R.'s coat.

12th. Mrs. Sneath here washing. Mrs. B. here. I waited on Mrs. Sneath. Eliz' Davis here.

13th. Cut a coat for James H. Gill and a pair of sleeves for his father, 40 cts. chd. Got Mrs. Sneath her dinner, &c. Got in clothes. I did not sew any.

14th. Mrs. B. and Mrs. Sneath here. She ironed said clothes. Wesley Runyon brought a forequarter of beef here, 113 lbs. at 3 cts. per lb. Went to Bennett's after barrel and saw and then cut up beef.

15th. I sewed some. Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Wells, and Mrs. Sneath here. Got dinner and washed up. Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Simon and her daughter here.

16th. Sunday. Quite a number of ladies here. Watch bit Mrs. Simon's arm. H. Sneath here.

17th. Mrs. Bennett here. I finished Frank Runyon's coat and went to Job Davis'.

18th. Mack and I hauled one load of wood. Rainy. Made two brooms and partly fixed a coat for Mack Davis.

19th. Mrs. Sneath here washing. I waited on her and finished Mack's coat, 40 cts.

20th. Hung out, and went to Hillsboro with Job Davis to post stray heifer (a red roan yearling). Newbold not at home. Came home. Shot seven quails. Did chores, then in evening we went up to William C. Morris' and did up the business.

21st. Very cold. Not very well. Went to Job's field. Shot at a turkey flying and missed it. Took out skins and cut some wood at the schoolhouse for Sneath.

22nd. Did chores and went to Job's field and shot six quails.

23rd. Sunday. Hauled some poles from clearing and made a shed for Bally. H. Sneath and wife here to dinner.

24th. Mend a pair of pants for Mac Davis, 20 cts., and chopped some wood for self. Snowed like fury.

25th. Christmas. Mack and I hauled a load of wood, then I went hunting. Kill one rabbit and two quails. Fell in with L. Wells and we hunted together. He killed one quail and I shot one quail. Snow nearly knee deep. Turkeys in my field this day.



26th. Mrs. Sneath here washing. Waited on her and shelled a sack of corn.

27th. Took said corn up to Bennett's. Then I went to Salem and sold 21 quails, 52½ cts. to J. W. Olds. Traded it out (booked). Came back at night. Kill one quail. Some of my cattle in the field and some in the sheep yard. Put them all right again.

28th. Rainy. Fix brush fence where said cattle broke in, then mended Anna's and John A.'s shoes.

29th. Chopped wood in my timber.

30th. Sunday. Mrs. Wells here, R. and Leo also.

31st. Cut out a coat for David Boley. Received 25 cts. Then Mack D. and I hauled one load of wood. I went to Bennett's and got my two sacks of meal they took to mill for me. I measured O. Perry Taylor for a coat, and chop wood and fix to go to Uncle William's.

January 1, 1861. Went to Uncle William's. Shot one common partridge. Stayed till half past ten at night and then came home.

2nd. Cut out a coat for James Boley, Jr., at I. Conley's, charged 25 cts. Also cut a coat for O. P. Taylor, charged 30 cts. Mrs. Sneath here washing. I carried some poles to sheep pen.

3rd.. Made ax handle and finished a pen for sheep. Trap two quails.

4th. Chopped some wood for self and made hogs a shed. Trap one quail.

5th. Mack and I hauled one load of wood.

6th. Sunday. Hunting. Kill two squirrels. Discover the tumbler of my gun lock is fractured. Came home and cleaned the lock.

7th. Mend a pair of boots for A. C. Bennett and he agrees to haul two loads of wood for pay. I partly hung my ax.

8th. Fix a pair of pants for Mack D., 10 cents, then went to Wells's and took back their meal, 23½ lbs. Went on to H. Sneath's. He going to Mount Pleasant soon, I left my gun for him to take to be repaired. Trap one quail.

9th. A. C. Bennett and I hauled said two loads of wood, and I partly cut out my cat-fur cap.

10th. Sewing on said cap, mend mitten, &c.

11th. Kill one hog. H. Sneath came here, he helped me, then I wrote three estray notices for him.

12th. Cut up said hog, weighed 179 lbs., salted the meat, and trimmed some brush.

13th. Sunday. Went to Wells's. The boys and I went east to creek. My old sheep had a lamb.

14th. Finished my cat-skin cap and dressed some skins.

15th. Went to McCreadie's field and in a big branch set three traps for mink.

16th. To trap. Quite a heavy snow. I knit on qail net.

17th. To trap and took some of Mrs. Wells's borrowed lard home.

18th. Chopped a load of wood in timber.

19th. Went to Job's, and from there to Gill's timber. Found them there cutting logs on shares. Then Mack and I hauled two loads wood and went up to William C. Morris' and stayed all night. Received \$2.00.

20th. Sunday. Came home and to trap. Caught one mink and brought traps home.

21st. Took Mrs. Wells's lard home, and to Gill's timber and got some butternut bark and doctored sick sheep. Two quail.

22nd. Went on north side of creek, then cut some wood.

23rd. On north side of creek hunting sign, and chopped some wood, P. M., snowing, work on trap and quail net. Assessor, Mr. Davidson, here.

24th. Very cold. Fix my old coat. Dr. Siveter here.

25th. On north side of creek and set two big steel traps on the creek.

26th. To trap. Brought them home. Then Mack Davis and I went to Salem. I took 21 eggs and traded for coffee, and home at night.

27th. Sunday. Lent Leo' Wells my two big steel traps till Tuesday morning. He set them for turkeys in their field, then he and I went on creek east hunting for sign. Found plenty.

28th. A. M., chopped some wood in Dr.'s timber. P. M., commenced making a box trap.

29th. Mack and I hauled one load of wood, then went to creek east and set three traps.

30th. To trap, and fix my ticking pants.

31st. To trap, and went to school from noon to recess, and partly fixed my vest.

February 1, 1861. Helped Sol Gill make a sled. He agrees to haul wood for me for pay.

2nd. To trap, and to Sneath's, then home. Sent by Watsons for my gun at Mount Pleasant.

3rd. Sunday. Rufus Wells here. We went to Gill's shop.

4th. To trap and then to William C. Morris's court. Jonathan Anderson sued a Mr. Miller for rent. Jury's verdict, \$28.00 in favor of defendant, and plaintiff pay costs.

5th. Sent letter to John Wetsel. Chopped wood. In evening Isaac Watson brought my gun to schoolhouse. Repairing a new tumbler cost \$1.50.

6th. Mack and I hauled one load of wood. To trap, caught one possum.

7th. Fixed my mittens and shelled some corn. Very cold.

8th. To trap. Caught one possum, and then chopped some wood.

9th. Lem Bennett and I hauled two loads wood for self, and to trap. A thaw.

10th. Sunday. Rainy. A big thaw. Went to creek and got my two steel traps. Stayed at Wells's all day.

11th. Went to Sigler's mill. Creek very high, first time this year. Hunted some and came home. Fixed my boot and put my left to rights.

12th. Went up on prairie to W. C. Morris' and to Jonathan Anderson's. Did no business with either of them. Shot two prairie chickens.

13th. Opened potato hole and got them in the cellar. Some frozen. Sorted them.

14th. Went to Job Davis'. Mack did not kill hogs. Then went to Gill's shop and got an open ring, a frow, a wedge, and my mattock fixed, 40 cts.

15th. Went to schoolhouse and carried and chopped some wood for the school. Then mended Anna's shoes.

16th. I went to Sneath's. Anna and boys went to Bennett's. I rode home with Sneath.

17th. Sunday. Went to Wells's. L. and R. and J. and Frank Runyon and I went to creek. Came home and skin a cat.

18th. Went up on prairie with Job and Mack Davis. Got one sheep of Jacob Runyon. Mack hauled it home for me. In evening it jumped out and I tracked it nearly back. Runyon put it in with theirs and I left it for a few days.

19th. Went on prairie. Kill nothing.

20th. Hauling fodder till noon. Then went to creek north.

21st. We went to Bennett's, saw Hiram Steward and Esther L. Bennett married by Mr. Williamson at 3 o'clock, 30 min. P. M.

22nd. Saw wild ducks and blue birds, first time this year. Went to creek and set three traps. Weather very mild. Joseph Frazier here. I sold one mink, 75 cts., two possums, 15 cts.

23rd. Went to Davis', then to Gill's after Mack. He and I ground my ax and mattock and his ax, then went to trap. Creek very high—covered one steel trap. Carried some roots, &c.

24th. Sunday. We all went to Wells's and stayed all day. I went to trap.

25th. Mack and I hauled one load of wood. I went to Runyon's and carried said sheep home, and to trap. Cut some brush and put in ditch by old road.

26th. Fixed brush fence around pasture. Chopped stove wood and husked corn. Preparing to go to Salem. About noon David Siveter came here, brought a fine coat and pair pants for me to make for Samuel Siveter. He went home on account of the creeks being high. I went to school, it being the last day.

27th. To trap, and sewing on said coat.

28th. William and H. Giberson came here and helped me chop brush to pay for cutting their coats.

[To be continued]

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## AN ORIGINAL STUDY OF MESQUAKIE (FOX) LIFE

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### II

Following the council of Mesquakie Indians with Des Moines teachers which was held February 18, 1928, the interest of schools and teachers in the Mesquakie Indians of Iowa continued. So many questions came into the Historical Department to be answered on this group of Indians that an Indian Life School was attempted by Curator Harlan as an effort to put into the hand of teachers in Iowa schools, such direct and first hand aid to their teaching of pioneer and Indian Life as he could. Meetings were held on the banks of a small stream on a wooded plot near Altoona, Iowa, with no accessories or advantages for the teachers that the Indians did not need in such a camping place as they make in their usual proceeding in 1928 their occasional hunting and trapping trips. There was no heat except such as they provided for Indians' needs, and no illuminants except the moon, which was near full, no seats except the natural sward whose irregularities formed the arrangement of persons participating as either audience or management. The curve of the brook and the pitch of the ground toward it formed the natural stage and auditorium of the Indians' choice.

\*\*\*\*\* Ere man learned  
To hew the shaft, and lay the architrave,  
And spread the roof above them—ere he framed  
The lofty vault, to gather and roll back  
The sound of anthems; in the darkling wood,  
Amid the cool and silence, he knelt down,  
And offered to the Mightiest solemn thanks  
And supplication.\*\*\*\*\*—Bryant.

#### INDIAN LIFE SCHOOL

(Talk between Dr. Melvin R. Gilmore<sup>1</sup> and E. R. Harlan on the one part and Young Bear and Jim Poweshiek on the other, George Young Bear, interpreter. Stenographic record and transcript by Harriet King Card.)

Tuesday evening, August 28, 1928.

Mr. Harlan: I want to tell Young Bear through George, the occasion of this meeting.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>See Who's Who in America for 1928, page 868, for Dr. Gilmore.

<sup>2</sup>The end of each of these paragraphs indicates a pause during which George Young Bear interpreted the words of Mr. Harlan or of Dr. Gilmore into Indian, or the words of Young Bear or of Jim Poweshiek into English.



For some time there have been from one to a dozen of those who teach our children in the Des Moines city schools coming to the Historical Building, or otherwise asking our assistance in their preparation to teach these children Indian Life. It occurred to me that there might be an arrangement for a few teachers to hear the Indians' answers to their questions, and in other ways to get acquainted with you and your way of living; for that reason only was this series of meetings planned.

From the fact that there are about two and a half million white people in Iowa and but three hundred and eighty of the Sac and Fox tribe that in 1846 and earlier occupied the lands where we are now, it seems like the white people ought in some way to arrange to become better acquainted with you and your ancient ways. This is meant to help you show your white friends, who may be here during the week and Sunday and Monday, that it is not at all impossible to meet and get acquainted with you.

The books that we study tell us what lands, now in the state of Iowa, you inhabited a hundred years ago. If our books have it right, in about 1810 to 1820 there were a number of tribes that we ought to know more about. They are your own, the Sioux, Winnebagoes, Iowas, Omahas, and Pottawatamies. But we can learn this also from you. I thought that during this week we might have a talk about each of those different ones. Let us tell you what our books teach us, and then hear you tell us what you know of these different tribes.

Now, I would like to hear your thoughts about this plan. What do you think of it? Would it be agreeable to you and your people, and can we make of it a benefit to both your people and to our own?

Young Bear: My friends, as I look upon the face of each one of you I realize that our race will soon be no more in the future, because the conditions of our homes are changing. Each year we can see the difference as the new generations come. There is a great deal of change. We are losing our customs, habits, and many of our arts are past and gone. The government is educating our people, sending our children to school, and when these children come back to our homes they are not as we have taught them. They learn things from the books, therefore their habits are formed and they go out

into the world more like the white people, and so all these things will be all past in a few more years, and those of you who are interested in us, I hope that some good will be accomplished between us, and toward the understanding of our people and your people, and so any questions that you may ask will be welcome, and we will attempt to answer the best we can.

Mr. Harlan: I propose that this group of teachers have the benefit, as you do too, of Dr. Gilmore's being with us. I want to introduce Dr. Gilmore to you as being the truest man in regard to the Indians and other races that it has been my pleasure ever to meet. Not only is he true and just, but he was born in Nebraska, and as a boy and as a student in the colleges he perfected himself in his knowledge of the Indians' use of plants and plant life. He has associated with, lived with and respected the Indians of other tribes and languages. During the week he will be able to ask questions and to answer questions which will contribute to this very good purpose that you and I would like to see brought about.

Then I propose that those of us who are here and find you willing to give us whatever information that you feel we ought to have—I propose that anything we ask of you should be a question which, if you were to ask us, would seem to us to be fair and right. That is, we would like to know, for instance, all about the way you conduct your family. But we will not ask you any question that we would not want you to ask us about our family. Whatever is said tonight will be in the spirit that will help us to understand your ways. We will write it down, and then tomorrow evening that question will be asked of you and of Dr. Gilmore. We will see that it is all right, and, if answered, will be a contribution to the knowledge of these folks who teach Indian Life.

If it is a question that would not be right to ask about my children or my wife, then you and Dr. Gilmore will pay no attention to that question, and no one will inquire any further about it. I know from my association with you and your people that white people are often not very tactful about the way they try to inquire into your way of living. This body, and every one that is in this group will be just as nice and just as respectful of you as they would expect you to be re-

spectful of them. With that arrangement we believe it will be a happy experience.

Now, we recognize that you, Young Bear, being around sixty years old, who, when you first remember, were in your father Push e ton e qua's house, that you, as a boy must have learned from him or from some one else, a good deal the same as my children have learned from their teachers in school. You must have learned the things that made you a good man, and Jim Poweshiek, over seventy years old—say sixty-five years ago, when he was five years old—he must have been taught such things as made him a good man. I wish you would teach us how, a hundred years ago, the Indian boy or girl got his knowledge. How were they taught these lessons?

Young Bear: We all know that to seek knowledge is one of the hardest tasks for any one to take, and so it is with us, and tonight there are probably more people than this that would like to hear just the things we are talking about, but they have no time. And so it is with us. Sometimes there may be a council, there may be some knowledge that has been acquired by our old people—would be taught to our people, and they are called together to one lodge. There may be a few that would go, and so the human being is almost the same everywhere. And in the teaching of our customs and habits and our legends and the stories and ceremonial rites, the record has been made. But we find everywhere the books that you read—the books that have been recorded of the habits of our people—were made long before the white people settled this country. The travelers and explorers and traders would come through the village and stay for a day and go away and write their records. Of course the people today depend on those records. They learn about the Indians only from those records. The records even that are these days made by the men who came on in our own reservation—they are made often by men that went out from Washington to learn our sacred ceremonials, about our customs and our rituals, our beliefs—they come out to learn these and to make record of them, and of course they often do not meet the right kind of our people. We have various classes of Indians. Some live just according to their own way, and of course they will do anything, when some white man comes along they expect to be compensated

by the white man, and so the white men are misinformed, but if the white man would go to the thinking Indian, the Indian who tries to do what is right—they cannot, by giving money or presents—they cannot get the information, and so the records that you get are something entirely wrong. Your people have been misinformed. And so it is with our children. We are teaching things that our parents taught us, and there are many ways that they are teaching it. We teach the lesson through experience and through talks, and through showing how to do things, and so we live throughout the course of our lives. Each thing has to be taught during the certain age from the very beginning. Year after year things are taught to us until the knowledge that we have in our old age has become thorough.

Any question that any one wishes to ask will be answered, and the question asking anything I do not know, I will admit that I do not know. Of course, Mr. Harlan knows me well, and I always tell him what I know.

Mr. Harlan: Let me ask Young Bear to go back in his own recollection to when he was a little boy, and tell us of some one who showed him something that has been good for him all his life. Tell us the name of the person and the circumstance under which he learned that lesson.

Young Bear: It is hard to remember certain things that make us good later on in life, because the things that are taught to us are taught to us little by little, from year to year, and so we cannot remember certain ones or names, but, however, later on in life we remember them and we think about them.

As I remember in early childhood, the right and wrong was taught to me by my parents. They showed me what was right and what was wrong. They taught me not to do what was bad, and so one of these things was not to take the things that belonged to some one else. Stealing has been taught to us as being one of the worst evils to be done by any one, and the life that is taught to us is that if any one takes the road that is not right he will not have life—he will not live long, but the one who keeps his life clean will live long and will be looked upon by the Great Spirit.

Kindness is another thing that is taught to us—to be kind



to all living things; to be kind to the poor, and to be kind to every one, and so if we see any one who is old and feeble and tottering along we should not laugh, we should not mock him; if we see any one crippled, we should not say anything, but favor him and feel kind toward him.

To make friends wherever we go is another thing. We were taught to respect every one and to be friendly, and so one of the things that is taught to us is to be free with everything that we have. In those days food was regarded as one of the greatest gifts any one could give; and so the food, if we have food, if we have plenty we should not think only of ourselves, but of our people first, and so we should give—give—and always give as much as we can. If we see any one, if we see old people in a lodge by themselves, having a hard time, we should go over with food and enter their lodge. We should give them the things that will make them comfortable. And so the custom was, in the old days, that whenever a family is sick and cannot get their own food and cannot make their own things, that it was up to the people to help them, not for pay, but just kindness, to help one another. If the old people who live in a house by themselves, they should be helped. And so it was the duty of every young man who was able to do anything, it was to help the old people and give them food or whatever they needed. In this way the Great Spirit blesses the young people, and it is because of this they live long. Why is it that a young man helps his old people? It is because the thing that has been taught to us is that the Great Spirit blesses and makes those young people live long, those who help the old people. The old people when they live to be of old age, they do not live to an old age because they have taken care of themselves, but they are blessed by the Great Spirit, and so the young man who helps them are those blessed by the Great Spirit.

We should not say things that are not so. To lie to one another is an evil thing, and we should not lie to one another, and when we say the things that are true we should not be ashamed to tell one another the truth. Be true to one another, be true to your friends, be true to every one, because the one who lies is not the one who is looked upon by the

Great Spirit, but truth is the thing that the Great Spirit wishes to have, and he blesses the children who tell the truth.

So there are a great many things as we grow old—things the old people were taught by their parents to teach their children to lead the life that is full of kindness and love. And they were taught to go out to hunt, so they came upon white men's homesteads everywhere, and as they went by a schoolhouse all of the children came out. They came and threw rocks, sticks, and threw everything at the horses and at our people, and so our old people supposed white people teach their children in their schoolhouses to throw at people. They teach the things different than the Indians teach, and we don't want our children to be taught those things.

Mr. Harlan: I wonder if we can, all of us, now, consider what Young Bear could tell us tomorrow evening that would apply to our own job, as teaching our children, or teaching our pupils in school; and so if any one has queries, write them out, and if you come in the evening Dr. Gilmore will arrange them so the queries will bring out whatever our Indian friends can give us of their own culture in the direction that the queries point. I wish we could have Dr. Gilmore tell us, and George interpret it, so Young Bear and Jim will understand.

Dr. Gilmore: It occurs to me that the teachers might leave their queries today, and tomorrow it will be easier and more economical in time.

Mr. Harlan: Dr. Gilmore, I am anxious that these Indians learn what other Indians you have visited and studied, so that whenever the name is mentioned among them they will see that your learning comes from their own relations or with those not related to you. I want them to know you.

Mr. Gilmore: Well, Mr. Harlan said I was born in Nebraska—in eastern Nebraska, in the Omaha country. I was used to seeing the Omahas and Pawnees when I was a small boy—saw them traveling from their homes to trading posts at Elk Horn. I was acquainted with the Indians, and saw them as friends. It was after I was in college that I first came to know the Omahas well. I was teaching in a college in Nebraska near Lincoln, and was at the same time doing graduate work in the University of Nebraska, when I went on an experimental

trip on the Omaha reservation. I got acquainted with them then, and learned a number of interesting things from them about their native plants and their uses, and also of their old time agriculture. When I came back to the University I was talking of the interesting things I learned from the Omahas, it was suggested that I make that my special study. Then I made a special inquiry into the Omahas' use of plants, and from that to other tribes of the Missouri region.

I then extended my study to the Pawnees, the Poncas, the Sioux, the Mandans and others. I was curator of the State Historical Society of Nebraska. Some years after that I went to North Dakota as curator of that state, and got acquainted with the Aricaras, the Mandans, and as I had been well acquainted with the Pawnees, I went down into Oklahoma to make a study of them. While I was still in Nebraska their chief visited that state. He was then eighty-three years old. He said he wanted to visit his homeland before he died, so I took him out along the Platte River. He showed me where he was born, his old village scenes and many things of old time life. On the way back to Lincoln he said to me one day, "I have in mind to give you a Pawnee name." He considered for some time, and mentioned two names he had in mind. He spoke up again and said, "I have now made up my mind." And when he returned home he made a declaration of the name, and so I have always felt acquainted with the Pawnees and the Aricaras—since they are of the same stock. When I went to North Dakota the Aricaras felt especially friendly to me because I bore a Pawnee name.

I have gone to all these people in a friendly way, acknowledging them as my teachers. They have been very kind to me, and have taught me what I know. It is by their teaching that I am able to teach white people Indian lore, especially of the Poncas and the Aricaras. They are people of superior culture. Yet the white people have not learned so much about them as they have about some other tribes. The Mandans for instance are better known. Yet the Mandans and other tribes learned from the Aricaras and the Pawnees. It was these people who came from the Southwest, and taught the other tribes, and so they have been glad for me to record their knowl-

edge. They have felt slighted that the people that they themselves taught before white men came, have come to be considered by white people to be of superior culture, when in reality they borrowed their culture from them. For that reason the Aricaras especially have been very desirous for me to get all of the information I can before it is too late, because the old people have died, and the young people of the tribes are not learning things alone of their own tribes.

I have learned from these people, not only what I started out to do—their knowledge of native plants, and of their agriculture, but also of the native animals and birds and mammals, and their knowledge of geography, their systems of teaching the children, their educational system, how their children acquire their education, and everything of interest that concerns the old-time people. To me there is a strange ignorance in white people. It seems to me that the white people know more of the native peoples of foreign lands than they do of our own people here. So I have tried to lead white people to know some of the beautiful things that there are in America, and something of the worth of the life and teachings of the races that are native to this country.

In my association with these tribes, and more especially with the Pawnees and the Aricaras, they have often said that they do not feel me to be a stranger. They feel as though I am one of them, and I have been invited to take part with them in their sacred rituals. I have been through these societies, taking part in the rituals, and have made record of these things. They are not printed yet, but a good deal of the work that I have done in plants has been printed by the Bureau of American Ethnology, in the Thirty-third Annual Report,<sup>3</sup> and many of these other things that I have learned from them I have not yet published.

After several years in the service of the state of North Dakota I was called to the Museum of the American Indian in New York, and have since then been in field work with the tribes. I have got acquainted with the Iroquois, and have some interesting information from them.

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<sup>3</sup>*Thirty-third Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology*, 1911-12, page 39. Also see Dr. Gilmore's articles in the *ANNALS OF IOWA*, "Folklore concerning the Meadow Lark," Vol. XIII, p. 137; "The Ground Bean and the Bean Mouse and their Economic Relations," Vol. XII, pp. 606-09.



Mr. Harlan: Would you like to ask Dr. Gilmore anything about these different things, or the people he was acquainted with?

Young Bear: I have listened to my friend's talk, and every word that he uttered is true. I believe in everything he said, but of course I do not understand or do not know anything about the people he spoke of. However, I know several tribes, and the people that we understand—there are several of us that understand each other—we have the same customs, habits and beliefs—we are almost the same, and also are friendly to these tribes, and every one of these tribes we have visited and become acquainted with, but our friend and the people he spoke about—I do not know anything about those people.

Mr. Harlan: I believe you can all see, you, Young Bear, and Jim, and Dr. Gilmore, how much those of us sitting by can learn. If, as you talk to one another before us during the week, Young Bear should inquire of Dr. Gilmore about the customs of the Pawnees or the Aricaras or any other, and will let us hear the question and answer, and if you, Dr. Gilmore, should ask of Young Bear and his people any thing of interest here in the meeting, we can have as much benefit as you two do. That is my thought of what a school is. It need never be called a school, and yet we are all learning very, very much. Because Dr. Gilmore has paid special attention to the plants, I am going to suggest that if Dr. Gilmore can spare the time, perhaps Thursday morning, he and Young Bear can spend some time looking at the native plants in this region which Dr. Gilmore is interested in, and he can explain the plants to Young Bear as he understands them and has learned from other people.

Dr. Gilmore: And Young Bear can tell me things from his people that I do not know.

It may be well to say that these tribes that I have been speaking of—I was speaking of two interesting stocks—our Indians here are of another stock—I do not know a word they are saying, because I have not worked with any of the tribes that speak Algonquin—I spoke of two tribes of the Cadoan stock, and several other tribes that I mentioned, that are entirely different from the Siouan stock, and both entirely different from the Algonquin, with different customs and different

blood, just as there are different divisions of the white race. For instance, Slavonic, Teutonic and Celtic. There are more than fifty, nearly sixty different Indian stocks, and these different stocks comprise more than two hundred languages. For instance, each one of these stocks may have contributed to the number of Kiowa as only one stock, and many of the others may have from several up to two dozen languages—languages related to each other, yet not intelligible to each other, as there are Germans and Swedes and Hollanders, and each of these languages may have several dialects, just as you know the Germans and Swedes and several in Norway. So I mention that there are several tribes of these stocks, but Young Bear was not acquainted with these other people. I have never been thrown with any of the people of his stock except a little boy with the Chippewas—there was one in North Dakota—and that is all I know of the Algonquin, except also a little boy of the Pottawattamies. My acquaintance has been mostly Caddoan and Siouan and Iroquois. The Iroquois is a great stock of New York and Canada, and the Cherokee in the South.

Mr. Harlan [to George Young Bear]: Will you tell your father what Dr. Gilmore has just said of the diversity of the stocks?

Dr. Gilmore: There are many different stocks in America, just as there are in Europe, of the white people.

Mr. Harlan: Now, I want Young Bear to learn from Miss Mershon how it is you go about teaching Indian Life?

Miss Mershon: I am afraid we never had much success doing it. We have so little material we can use. Just exactly how do you mean?

Mr. Harlan: When a class comes to you and you have a study of Indian Life. Just what do you do?

Miss Mershon: At the beginning of the work I generally try to find out what they would like to know, and make a list. And then, of course, during the last semester's work<sup>4</sup> I knew much more about it myself. That has to be true when we have no texts. When the children of the third grade, seven or eight years old, have no texts, and we find out what they want

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<sup>4</sup>The semester's work referred to was done after the Council of the Indians and teachers was held, a report of which is published in the first division of this article.

to know—for instance, about the houses, I generally talk about our own homes first, and then about the Indians' homes.

Mr. Harlan: George, explain that to your father. Now then, if you are giving to them the information they want to know about the Indians' houses or homes, what have you in the shape of a book?

Miss Mershon: That's what I have been anticipating. We have had nothing to go on. I felt better equipped to teach after I was out here last spring than ever before.

Dr. Gilmore: Are you acquainted with the *Hand Book of the American Indian* published by the Bureau of American Ethnology, sometimes referred to as the *Encyclopedia*?

Miss Mershon: Yes, I go to that, but it must all come from the teacher. The teacher has only what she can get from books. We have nothing definite on Indians in our own locality.

Mr. Harlan: George, will you make that plain to Young Bear. Now in that line Dr. Gilmore has studies and notes, and I believe a manuscript which, when it is published, ought to supply you, Miss Mershon, and any one in your situation, substantially what you are seeking, and my part in the matter here would be to have Dr. Gilmore acquainted with that problem, even more, perhaps, than he is, and that he connect that with our own Indian resources of this state. This is the object and all the object I have. Tell your folks, too, George, so we can make all minds alike.

Young Bear, our books tell us that in the earliest time, the earliest people, learning, education, was gained from the wisest men in just talks this way. Even the Nazarene taught those who believed him, blessed them, and taught his faith in just conversations, sometimes with no more people about than are here, and that has been studied for thousands of years afterwards. And so your people, in talking around your fires in winter have done this. Without any pretense at all this evening we have had an interchange of thoughts of the different races and different languages, and have talked of the different problems that we all have. I wish we could recollect with what seriousness, and I would say success, we have met in this little party in this way.

Now, we understand that all these people that Dr. Gilmore has mentioned are races in the world's history who have had

similar problems and similar experiences. Among the experiences of each one have been spiritual experiences, through, for instance, the art of music. I would like to have some music by Jim on his flute. Just enough of it so that each evening the rest of the week we can get together on the experiences or the enjoyment of it. I want Young Bear and Jim to understand this idea. Jim, did you bring your flute?

Jim: Yes.

Mr. Harlan: Will you get it? Later in the week I hope Dr. Gilmore will give to you all the thoughts he gave to me today, about this. And while Jim is getting ready I wish our friends would reflect just a little upon the fact that these sounds that we hear today will not be the same as from our violins or saxophones. I have always felt like we can associate the notes of the flute with the notes of the doves or the whippoorwills, or any sound in nature, as he will play it for us. If I am mistaken about that, Dr. Gilmore will correct me at a later time.

George Young Bear: He is playing a certain class of music—songs, and he wishes to know if any one cares to hear any particular song. He knows different kinds of songs—songs he played, and there are two particular songs that he has always played. The two are love songs, and the meaning of these love songs he always tries to explain. Some people are interested in these songs, and they want to know them, and he has mentioned two or three of his friends that he has tried to teach.

Dr. Gilmore: I was going to suggest that Indians have different kinds of instruments for different classes of music—there are different classes. I mention sentimental songs, and there are songs for other purposes, as other races have ballads, and other types of songs. Indians have victory songs, songs of war, and songs in relation to all phases of life, and so they have different instruments for different emotions. The flute is for sentimental songs and love songs.

Mr. Harlan: Let me ask that he play some one song, some one melody, until we get it in our own natures, to see if we cannot get it this week. Let's stick to one until we get the spirit of it? What is the song about?

(Jim plays on his flute; the teachers applaud.)



Jim: The origin of this song is unknown. Our own people have sung this song for generations, and it tells of a certain couple. It is a young man and a young woman who were very much in love with each other, and of course eventually married. They had a lodge of their own and they were very happy. They lived together for some years, and finally there was some difficulty between them. They began to quarrel, and began to find fault with each other. They were very unhappy. They began to worry over the future. Finally the young woman became so unhappy and so dissatisfied with her lodge that she decided at last to leave, to go out alone, and become of her whatever may happen to her. And so she goes out—left her home with a heavy heart, worried and saddened, and so she sings this song. The title of it is “I am going away.”

Mr. Harlan: Can you sing it, Jim?

George: He said he would try to sing it—of course he is not much of a singer.

Mr. Harlan: I am going to say this. That if Young Bear and Jim will sing this tomorrow night, and these folks will try to learn it, Dr. Gilmore and I will try it.

Dr. Gilmore: You are promising too much.

Mr. Harlan: Well, anyway, nothing would please me better than to have some one try to sing it. What is “Ni be no”?

George: It means “I am going away.”

Jim plays his flute, then sings the song “Ni be no.”

Mr. Harlan: Well, I think that song might be treated as the end of the evening. I can't see why we cannot get a great deal of good out of this experience and this exchange of thought. So far as I know this is the only record ever made of a Mesquakie conference as an aid to the teaching of Indian Life by white teachers in schools. Whether one song or a dozen makes no particular difference until the music and the meaning of it is understood by the pupils being taught. I would like to have Miss Rhode or Mrs. Card make a record of your criticism or particular questions as to the value to you of this method. I want also to canvass the subject of the comfort of the evening. By tomorrow evening Dr. Gilmore will have some additional ideas, all within proper scope, and if you miss it, it will, I think, be to abuse an opportunity.

*[To be continued]*

# ANNALS OF IOWA

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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### NOTABLE DEATHS

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JOHN LOOMIS STEVENS was born in Northfield, Vermont, May 19, 1850, and died in Ames, Iowa, October 23, 1933. Burial was in the Ames Cemetery. His parents were John Loomis Stevens and Harriet E. (Tucker) Stevens. The family removed to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1863, and later to Belle Plaine. John Loomis, Jr., attended primary school and academy in Northfield, and public school in Cedar Rapids and Belle Plaine. On the opening of the State Agricultural College at Ames in 1868 he entered the freshman class and was graduated in 1872 in the first class of that institution, and received the B. S. degree. He read law with Frank G. Clark of Belle Plaine and was admitted to the bar at Vinton in 1873. In November of that year he began practice at Ames in partnership with Daniel McCarthy. He served Ames as city recorder, then as city attorney, and in 1878 was elected district attorney for the Eleventh Judicial District composed of Boone, Story, Marshall, Webster, Hamilton, Hardin, Wright and Franklin counties and was re-elected four years later, serving until January 1, 1887. He was thus one of the last district attorneys under the old plan that preceded county attorneys. The fall of 1886 he was elected judge of the Eleventh District, was re-elected in 1890, but resigned in 1893 and entered private practice in Boone, removing to that city. Besides his distinguished career as a lawyer he led in many business enterprises, such as the Ames-Nevada telephone line in 1881, the Boone County and the Boone and Marshalltown telephone companies, the Ames and College Railway Company, and the Boone Brick and Tile Company, being president at some time of the most of these concerns. He was a Tenth District delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1900, as well as of the Republican National Convention of June 18, 1912. However, he was delegate at large to the Progressive National Convention of August 5, 1912, and became the national committeeman for Iowa of the Progressive party, and was also nominated September 4, 1912, as the candidate of the Progressive party for governor. During the world war Judge Stevens was Boone County chairman in the third and fourth liberty loan drives. Soon after the world war he again made Ames his home. He induced Theodore Roosevelt to present some souvenirs of his expeditions to the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.

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EDWARD PAYSON HEIZER was born in Kossuth, a former town near the present town of Mediapolis, Iowa, June 20, 1855, and died in a hospital in Sioux City November 8, 1933. Burial was in Logan Park Cemetery,

Sioux City. His parents were James C. and Margaret (Blair) Heizer. The family removed to Galesburg, Illinois, in 1870, and Edward P. became a student in Knox College from which he was graduated in liberal arts. He then entered the law school of the State University of Iowa and finished his course there in 1878. He taught school in western Missouri and eastern Kansas a few years, then in the early 1880's he did his first newspaper work by joining the staff of the *Burlington Hawkeye*. From the *Hawkeye* he went to the *Bloomfield Republican* where he did editorial work. In 1883 he went to Sioux City and became an editorial writer on the *Sioux City Journal* of which George D. Perkins was editor. Mr. Perkins was much engrossed in political matters and his assistant more and more took over editorial work. When Mr. Perkins became a candidate for Congress Mr. Heizer was his campaign manager, and the eight years he was absent in Congress Mr. Heizer ably sustained the reputation of the *Journal*. Indeed he himself became a figure and a factor in party conventions and in state politics. In 1898 he was appointed postmaster at Sioux City and served until 1902. Shortly thereafter he went to the *Omaha Bee* and substituted as editor for Edward Rosewater for some time, and also was at Lincoln as editor and part owner of the *Lincoln Star*, but soon returned and established a beautiful farm home in Perry Creek valley, north of Sioux City, where he spent his declining years. He was an able and accomplished writer. As one of his friends has said "he possessed the technique of appropriate phraseology." He contributed many notable articles, and was many times called on for assistance as a writer by the National Republican Committee, as well as the State Committee in drafting platforms or in preparing literature. Knox College, as one of its distinguished alumni, awarded him the degree of doctor of literature. He was affiliated with the conservative wing of his party and had close friendships not only with Mr. Perkins, but with Gear, Blythe, Shaw and others.

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THOMAS P. HOLLOWELL was born in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, April 18, 1878, and died in Fort Madison October 20, 1933. His parents, Thomas P. and Nettie (Charles) Hollowell, removed their family to Fort Madison in 1882 where Mr. Hollowell became a guard in the State Penitentiary, and later became deputy warden, in which position he remained until his death a few years later. Thomas P., Jr., obtained his education in the different grades of the public schools of Fort Madison, and added a course in Johnson's Business College in the same city. In 1898 he enlisted in the Iowa National Guard and served in the Spanish American War. In 1899 he entered the United States mail service as a letter carrier and March 6, 1906, was appointed postmaster at Fort Madison, serving until April, 1914. During this time, following the Spanish American War, Mr. Hollowell retained connection with the Iowa National Guard. He became a lieutenant of Company A, Fifty-fourth Regiment, captain in 1906, and major in 1909, retiring in 1914. Before leaving the post office in 1914 he had become principal owner of the *Gem City*, a daily and weekly

newspaper of Fort Madison and assisted by his wife Miriam (Stewart) Hollowell, had also been its editor for some three years, and continued to be until November 17 when it was sold to and absorbed by the *Fort Madison Democrat*. In July, 1917, he enlisted in the motor battalion of the One Hundred and Ninth Ammunition train, Thirty-fourth Division, U. S. Army. He served with that unit in France, remaining with the Army of Occupation in Germany until 1919. Returning home he assisted in the reorganization of the Iowa National Guard. In 1920 he became secretary to Governor Harding, but on August 16, 1920, he was appointed warden of the State Penitentiary at Fort Madison and served until he resigned because of failing health in August, 1933. As a warden he was conservative, and succeeded in giving a good administration.

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GILLUM S. TOLIVER was born in Owen County, Indiana, February 11, 1840, and died in Jefferson, Iowa, October 24, 1933. His parents, Isom and Matilda (Reynolds) Toliver, removed their family by covered wagon first, in 1848 to Missouri, later to Arkansas, then back to Illinois, and finally to Greene County, Iowa, in 1854, and located on land six miles southeast of the present city of Jefferson. Gillum S. had attended school a few months in the various places of the family's abode, and attended a few winter terms of country school in Greene County, taught one term in Wapello County and studied a few months in Western College, Linn County. On September 28, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Tenth Iowa Infantry, registering from Rippey (Old Rippey). However, he was discharged in about a year because of disability. He entered the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, the fall of 1862 where he pursued the liberal arts course two years, and began a law course at Ann Arbor, Michigan, when during his absence he was appointed county surveyor of Greene County. He returned home and served in that position from 1864 to 1867. However, in 1865 he was admitted to the bar. He served as county treasurer in 1868 and 1869. The fall of 1869 he was elected representative and served in the Thirteenth General Assembly. In 1870 he formed a law partnership with John J. Russell as Russell & Toliver, which was continued until Mr. Russell's death in 1901. During those years they acquired a large general practice. Mr. Toliver's work was described by a local historian as being "characterized by continuity and thoroughness." At the time of his death he was the dean of the bar of Greene County, and was thought to be the only survivor of those who served in the General Assembly as early as the Thirteenth, 1870.

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THOMAS W. DRUMM was born in Fore, Ireland, July 12, 1871, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, October 24, 1933. Burial was in Catholic Glendale Cemetery. His parents were Thomas and Mary (Cullen) Drumm. He came to the United States in 1888 and lived with an uncle on a farm near Rockwell, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, did farm work, and also worked in a country store. Entering St. Joseph's College (now Columbia College) at Dubuque, he received from it his B. A. degree in 1898. He



then studied in Grand Seminary, Montreal, Canada, and was ordained a priest in 1901. Then for two years he served as curate to churches at Rockwell and at Monti, Buchanan County. Entering the Catholic University at Washington, D. C., in less than a year he was called to New York for mission work and from there to the Dubuque diocese for mission work. For twelve years he conducted missions and gave lectures. In 1915 he became pastor of St. Patrick's church in Cedar Rapids, and in 1919 was consecrated bishop of Des Moines. He was president of the Board of Trustees of Des Moines Catholic College, a fourth degree Knight of Columbus and a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. During the time he was bishop of Des Moines he made extensive improvements on the cathedral property, erected a new rectory, developed new parishes and cultivated and made better understanding between Catholics and non-Catholics. The Passionist order located their monastery on the Merle Hay road near Des Moines during his tenure of office. He was noted for his interest in relief and social work, and combined a missionary spirit with good administrative ability.

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JOSEPH SCHUYLER LONG was born in Marshalltown, Iowa, January 1, 1869, and died at his home at the Iowa School for the Deaf, Council Bluffs, October 30, 1933. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Marshalltown. His parents were William and Lucy Catherine Perry Long. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Marshalltown. Childhood injuries and meningitis deprived him of his hearing when he was about twelve years old, but he retained his speech perfectly throughout his life. As a student he entered the Iowa School for the Deaf and was graduated in 1883 in the first graduating class of that institution. The fall of the same year he entered Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C., completed the course with honors and received the degree of B. A. In 1889 he became an instructor in the Wisconsin School for the Deaf and boys' athletic director, remaining there eleven years, and in 1901 accepted the position of a teacher in the Iowa School for the Deaf, the following year was made active principal, and in 1908 principal, and remained so to be until his death. From 1901 to 1923 he edited *The Iowa Hawkeye*, a small paper published by the school. He contributed many professional papers, especially to the *American Annals of the Deaf*. For ten years or more he was on the staff of the *Council Bluffs Nonpareil* as a proof reader, as a writer of special articles, and sometimes as an editorial writer. In 1909 he published *Out of the Silence*, a book of verse, and in 1910 *The Sign Language*.

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AUGUST HENRY BERGMAN was born on a farm eight miles north of Newton, Iowa, and died in Newton November 2, 1933. Burial was at Newton Union Cemetery. His parents were William and Louisa Bergman. He was graduated from rural public school and in 1890 from Capital City Commercial College, Des Moines. The same year he engaged in the implement business in Newton. In 1893 he became a partner in

the manufacturing of the Parsons band cutter and self feeder Co. In 1900 he entered the washing machine manufacturing business and became president of the One Minute Manufacturing Company, now the One Minute Washer Company. He was also interested in banking and in 1925 was made president of the then First National Bank of Newton. He was the owner of several farms in Jasper County. His large business activities and responsibilities did not prevent him from having an interest in civic affairs. In 1922 he was elected senator and was re-elected in 1926, and served inclusively from the Fortieth to the Forty-third general assemblies. He soon attained large influence in the assembly. He introduced the first bill, which became a law, creating the gasoline tax. The subjects to which he gave most attention were roads, banking and agriculture. During his last two sessions he was chairman of the Committee on Banks and Banking. He was prominently mentioned in connection with the governorship in 1930, but had commenced a campaign for re-election to the Senate when he was stricken with paralysis, which eventually took his life.

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ORSON GIDEON REEVE was born in New Lyme, Ashtabula County, Ohio, July 4, 1846, and died in Hampton, Iowa, May 3, 1932. His parents were James Baldwin Reeve and Adaline (Riggs) Reeve. The family removed to Franklin County, Iowa, in 1853, Mr. Reeve having preceded them in the fall of 1852, becoming the first white settler of the county. The homestead was established about six miles southeast of the present town of Hampton, in what is now Reeve Township. Orson G. was reared in the farm home of his parents. He enlisted in Company G, Eighth Iowa Cavalry, June 15, 1863, underwent two years of arduous military service and was mustered out at Macon, Georgia, August 13, 1865. Returning home, he became a farmer, which vocation he continued in Reeve Township until 1913, when he retired and removed to Hampton. During his residence on the farm he held several township offices and in 1912 was elected representative to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Representative Frank A. Thayer, and served during the latter portion of the Thirty-fifth General Assembly.

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ROBERT H. SPENCE was born in Henry County, Illinois, April 15, 1852, and died at Mount Ayr, Iowa, October 7, 1933. At the age of nineteen he was with his parents as they removed to Ringgold County, Iowa. His boyhood was spent in the country and he early began teaching country schools. He was graduated from the College of Law of the State University of Iowa in 1875 and the same year began practice at Mount Ayr which he continued until a few weeks before his death. During that fifty-eight years he was in turn associated in partnership with R. F. Askern, I. W. Keller, R. C. Henry, Albert I. Smith, and for the last twenty years with H. C. Beard. For four years, 1889-92, he was county attorney of Ringgold County. He was active in state politics, but not a candidate for office. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in

1896. For seven years, 1898-1904, he was a member of the Republican State Central Committee, and was chairman of that committee for four years, 1901-04.

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HENRY FREDERICK WICKHAM was born in Shrewton, Wiltshire, England, October 26, 1866, and died in Iowa City, Iowa, November 16, 1933. Burial was in Oakland Cemetery, Iowa City. He was with his parents, George and Sarah (Light) Wickham in their removal to Iowa City in 1871. He attended Iowa City High School three years and the State University of Iowa from 1887 to 1891. His major studies were zoology and botany. In 1894 he received from the University the degree of Master of Science. From 1891 to 1903 he was an instructor and associate professor in the University, and from 1903 to 1933 he was professor of entomology. His knowledge of insects brought him recognition from the United States Department of Agriculture. For several summers he assisted that department in its field work, a part of the time being technical assistant in the biological survey in different parts of the country. His entire educational career was at the State University of Iowa.

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EMANUEL J. HINES was born on a farm near Anamosa, Iowa, February 4, 1883, and died in Toledo, Iowa, November 8, 1833. Burial was at Anamosa. His parents were John W. and Jennie E. Hines. About the time he became twenty-one years old he left the farm, removed to Anamosa and engaged in the meat and grocery business. Several years afterward he removed to Onslow and followed the same line of business there until in 1912 he was nominated by the Democratic party for county auditor of Jones County, and was elected. He was re-elected in 1914, 1916, and 1918, but during the last year of his fourth term he resigned to become secretary of the State Board of Control. He took over the duties of that office March 1, 1920, and relinquished it March 15, 1931, to become superintendent of the State Juvenile Home at Toledo, which he did April 1 of the same year. His administration of his duties in these several positions was marked by efficiency and integrity.

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BRUCE REESE MILLS was born in Bushnell, Illinois, January 28, 1867, and died in Woodbine, Iowa, October 1, 1933. He was with his parents when they removed in 1870 to Logan, Iowa. His education was acquired in the public schools at Logan. In 1897 he removed to Woodbine where he entered the livestock and real estate business. During his residence there he was for a time a member of the town council, and was school treasurer. In 1907 he was appointed postmaster at Woodbine, was re-appointed four years later and served until 1916. In 1918 he was elected representative, was re-elected in 1920, and served in the Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth general assemblies. In 1925 he was again appointed postmaster, was re-appointed four years later, and served until September 30, 1933, thus serving under seven presidents, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt.







